FBIS DAILY REPORT

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MODERNIZED THULE RADAR BREAKS ABM TREATY

PM271525 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 23 Jul 87 Morning Edition p 4

[Own correspondent A. Sychev report: "Greenland-United States: Violating the ABM Treaty"]

[Text] Stockholm -- The construction of a radar station at the U.S. Air Force base at Thule in Greenland is complete.

It was commissioned 24 June without undue ceremony. However, this event, which was preceded by violent political battles between the government and the opposition in Copenhagen and early elections to the Landsting (parliament) in Greenland, has only just become known.

Let us recapitulate. This question centers on a U.S. radar station which has been operating in Greenland since 1952 and which Washington has allegedly been "modernizing" since 1983. But it is essentially a modern new station which has been built and is now operating at Thule.

A phased-array station has been sited in the base's special sector codenamed "Department 3," and in conjunction with the electronics already installed it greatly increases the radar complex' potential and its operating range. The base commander has announced, LAND OG FOLK writes, that "Department 3" can maintain communications with 25 military satellites and watch and listen over a vast area of the globe, from the Soviet Union to Central America.

With the commissioning of the radar station Washington has effectively violated the Soviet-U.S. 1972 unlimited duration Treaty on the Limitation of Antiballistic Missile (ABM) Systems and its protocol. These documents unequivocally prohibit the radar at Thule. The countries which signed the document committed themselves in particular not to possess radar stations outside their own territory and not to carry out work at existing stations to increase their potential.

In addition, the "modernized station" will be part of the system of armaments currently being created in the United States under the "Star Wars" program. Many prominent U.S. experts have pointed out its function in this regard. This is also indicated by the decision to make "Department 3" as of 1 October directly subordinate to the "U.S. space command," which will control all elements of the strike systems of the "Strategic Defense Initiative" armaments.

Thus Washington's activity at the Greenland base in enlisting a number of Danish companies in the construction of an SDI project deals a severe blow to Denmark's foreign policy principles as expressed by the country's parliament in recent years and which include, among others, nonparticipation in the realization of U.S. ambitions in space.

IZVESTIYA REPORTS OBUKHOV NEWS CONFERENCE

PM271205 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 26 Jul 87 Morning Edition p 4

[TASS report under the general headline "Real Basis for Agreement": "News Conference in Geneva"]

[Text] Geneva, 25 Jul -- A news conference held at the USSR's permanent mission in Geneva was devoted to an explanation of the main points of the interview given by M.S. Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, to the Indonesian newspaper MERDEKA.

As A.A. Obukhov, deputy head of the USSR delegation at the talks on nuclear and space armaments with the United States, stressed, M.S. Gorbachev has unveiled a major new initiative on medium-range and operational and tactical missiles in Asia. Yesterday the Soviet side submitted this new version for examination. "We believe," the Soviet representative said, "that these proposals will enable considerable progress to be made at the talks on the package of medium-range and operational and tactical missile questions. All the far-fetched obstacles raised at the talks by the U.S. side should now disappear." The Soviet decision envisages the complete elimination of medium-range and operational tactical missile warheads, including the U.S. warheads for the Pershing-1A operational and tactical missiles belonging to the FRG. The production of medium-range and operational and tactical missiles would end. In other words, the Soviet side believes that a global zero option on USSR and U.S. medium-range and operational and tactical missiles really should mean zero. There should be no substitute. Thanks to the Soviet initiatives submitted in the past and now, a real prospect is opening up for working out a draft treaty on the complete elimination of Soviet and U.S. medium-range and operational-tactical missiles in the very near future.

Yu.K. Nazarkin, head of the USSR delegation at the Geneva disarmament conference, highlighted the fact that M.S. Gorbachev's interview touched on a whole series of other arms limitation and disarmament questions, including those which are being examined at the conference -- the banning of nuclear explosions, the banning and elimination of chemical weapons, the prevention of the arms race in space, and so forth. The Soviet Union takes a constructive stance on all these questions in its attempt to conclude concrete agreements.

PYADYSHEV VIEWS REACTION TO 'GLOBAL ZERO' PROPOSAL

PM271311 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 26 Jul 87 Second Edition p 4

[Unattributed report: "Foreign Ministry on the Line"]

[Text] Question to B. Pyadyshev, first deputy chief of the USSR Foreign Ministry Information Administration: "How do you rate the initial reaction to the new Soviet initiative?"

[Pyadyshev] The Soviet initiative has hit the nail on the head. Positive responses are coming in with a unanimity rare for the world political community. Of course, they are accompanied by reservations and varying degrees of skepticism. But the denominator is positive. The assessment of our step that prevails in the United States is that it contains potential for a breakthrough in nuclear disarmament. It is pointed out, however, that the delegations at the Geneva talks still have much work to do. And yet the sentiment is that it is possible to complete the drafting of an agreement on the elimination of medium-range and operational and tactical missiles as early as this fall.

The view is held in Washington circles that the Soviet initiative, if it contains no "hidden surprises," removes 80 percent of the differences in the sides' positions. Well, it is now up to the United States to solve the problem of the other 20 percent. And let them not put up a smokescreen over "surprises" -- our position is open and clear. Washington officials point out that the United States would be prepared to agree now to the demand for a ban on converting the missiles subject to reduction into other systems, particularly as sea-based cruise missiles. But what about the Pershing-1A missiles? The Americans still say that those Bundeswehr missiles with U.S. nuclear warheads are not subject to negotiation. Bonn says the same thing. In the present situation, whether they want this or not, the FRG could hold things up. "West Germany hitting the brakes of disarmament? That is all we need!" -- the newspaper STADT-ANZEIGER, which is close to the liberals, exclaims in a temper.

Washington and Bonn must make up their minds about the Pershing-1A missiles. We have never raised the question of them at the talks. They belong to the FRG and are not in themselves a subject of talks. It is a question of the U.S. warheads. It is these that must be eliminated. Otherwise there will be no "global zero." What kind of "global zero" is it if the United States leaves 72 warheads in Europe? This is no joking matter. Each one is equal to many Hiroshima bombs. We end up with "zero" for the Soviet Union and some kind of square "zero" for the United States.

IZVESTIYA REVIEWS RESPONSE TO GORBACHEV INTERVIEW

PM271231 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 25 Jul 87 Morning Edition p 4

[IZVESTIYA press service report: "World Welcomes Soviet Initiatives"]

[Text] The reaction to the major new initiative proposed by M.S. Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, was, as could be expected, instantaneous. In the words of a White House spokesman, it was literally immediately after Washington received the text of the interview which the Soviet leader had given to the Indonesian newspaper MERDEKA that President Reagan met with F. Carlucci, his national security assistant, and G. Shultz, secretary of state. The President's spokesman refrained from making detailed comments apropos the conclusions reached by the participants in the White House meeting, however he stressed that the United States welcomes the Soviet Union's decision.

"We welcome the announcement of the Soviet's agreement with the President's proposal on the global elimination of U.S. and Soviet longer-range intermediate missiles [raket povyshennoy promezhutochnoy dalnosti], which was originally put forward in November 1981," the spokesman said. If it is achieved, this agreement will lead to the complete elimination on a global basis of this category of missiles... It will also facilitate the monitoring procedure... This encourages us from the point of view of achieving a conclusive accord on an agreement (on medium-range missiles. -- IZVESTIYA editorial note), as well as from the point of view of a potential summit meeting. In my opinion, any positive step in the sphere of intermediate nuclear forces -- like, say, a treaty on these forces -- is also a positive step in other spheres, and therefore, if this is a response to our proposal -- and this is the impression we have received, -- we consider this quite gratifying in principle."

One cannot help but pay attention to Washington's emphasized desire to affirm its authorship concerning the "global zero" and moreover the "double zero." Apparently, it will not be too much to expect that the "authors" scrupulously and fully implement their idea and thus ensure the elimination of medium-range missiles rather than their "modernization" -- as in the case of the Pershing-2 -- or their transfer from land to ships -- and as in the case of the cruise missiles deployed in a number of West European countries. And one more detail is worthy of note in the White House comments

on the Soviet leader's initiative and the situation which has now arisen at the Geneva talks on nuclear and space armaments. When talk at the Washington special briefing turned to the Pershing-1A missiles, the problem of which has been created by the United States and the FRG and serves as a serious obstacle to the achievement of an accord on medium-range missiles, a high-ranking spokesman for the administration said: "The Soviet Union's position on the Pershings is quite consistent, just like ours." It is difficult to regard this opinion as anything other than a direct indication that the United States is not averse to further complicating the process of the Geneva talks.

This impression is reinforced by the statement by M. Kampelman, head of the U.S. delegation at the Geneva talks. He stressed that the United States would once again reject the Soviet Union's demand with regard to including in the text of the treaty provisions concerning the Pershing-1A missiles, which are in the FRG's possession.

Meanwhile, an official spokesman for the FRG Government made a statement which says in particular: The federal chancellor welcomes General Secretary Gorbachev's statement that the Soviet Union is ready to agree to the Western proposal on the global elimination of all medium-range missiles. General Secretary Gorbachev's statement reinforces the hope that the United States and the Soviet Union will achieve an agreement as early as this year on intermediate nuclear forces.

The spokesman also stated: "During the Geneva talks on nuclear and space armaments there has been talk only of U.S. and Soviet systems, and not of the weapons of third countries. That is why the United States resolutely rejected the idea of including in the agreement the Bundeswehr's Pershing-1A missiles when the Soviet Union demanded this a few months ago."

Speaking in the British Parliament, Prime Minister Thatcher stressed that the government she heads "warmly welcomes" the USSR proposal, if it is not bound up with additional conditions. She also indicated that this agreement must be submitted to "thorough monitoring" and must be examined "in conjunction with the situation in the sphere of other means of defense, in particular, chemical and conventional weapons."

The proposals, thoughts, and evaluations contained in the Soviet leader's initiative have met a broad and active response practically everywhere in the world, including in countries in the Asian-Pacific region.

'TOP PRIORITY' VIEWS GORBACHEV ARMS PROPOSAL

LD251436 Moscow in English to North America 2300 GMT 24 Jul 87

["Top Priority" program presented by Pavel Kuznetsov with Professors Radomir Bogdanov and Sergey Plekhanov, not further identified]

[Text] [Kuznetsov] How do you do, ladies and gentlemen. Time for Top Priority, a weekly panel discussion of major world events. I'm Pavel Kuznetsov your host, sitting in for Vladimir Pozner, who is off on a short vacation. Together with me are our usual panel, Professors Radomir Bogdanov and Sergey Plekhanov.

In his replies to the Indonesian newspaper, MERDEKA, General Secretary Mikhail Gorbachev has said that having taken into account the concerns of the Asian countries, the Soviet Union is prepared to agree to eliminate all of its medium-range missiles in the Asian part. In other words, he said, we'll proceed from the concept of a global double zero. Well, the question, the problem of whether the United States and the Soviet Union should retain 100 warheads each in Soviet Asia and on U.S. territory, respectively, has been the subject of a heated debate at the Geneva arms control talks for some time now, with the United States backing the view that there should be a global ban on such missiles. In fact, some time ago there was even a strong-worded statement from Washington saying that there would be no Soviet-American summit this fall if we, that is, the Soviets, do not accept this global ban.

So I'd like one of you to start the ball rolling by saying what is it that our offer reflects, represents: yet another concession to the American side, or perhaps an effort to put the Geneva arms control talks now stalled back on track, or what? Professor Bogdanov.

[Bogdanov] Pavel, Pavel, I'm frankly very much excited by this latest news. I feel that behind your question there's another question which you, to my mind, you didn't dare to (?formulate) it, formulate it. Clearly, you mean to say that what you call an offer, you had in mind a Soviet concession, I'm sorry that, that...

[Kuznetsov, interrupting] Yeah, well I mentioned this word, does this represent a Soviet concession?

[Bogdanov] Yeah, you put it very elegantly, yeah, you put it very elegantly, Soviet offer.

[Kuznetsov] No, I can't accept this accusation, (?You're) beating round the bush (?I said) yet another Soviet concession. OK.

[Bogdanov] Yeah, that, that, that was my feeling.

[Kuznetsov] OK, OK, all right, go ahead.

[Bogdanov] If you look at that Soviet offer, and it's really an offer, as just Soviet-American business that they're discussing in Geneva, you may be right. It looks like a concession. But I believe you would be very wrong to do that because it's high time, not only in that case but in any other cases, to fix all in the framework of the overall international relations with a very clear understanding, that the Soviet-American relations are just a part, very important but just a part of the bigger structure of the international relations, and in that bigger structure. Pacific and Asian countries play such an important role and have such an important perspective that, of course, you have to mind about this very seriously.

And as general secretary put it recently, he had a number of approaches from the Pacific and Asian countries caring about their security and asking us to settle that problem of 100 Soviet warheads and 100 American warheads. Just to satisfy them, to accommodate their wishes, the secretary general took that decision. We don't link that to the American nuclear capabilities in Korea, on Philippines, and so on and so on.

And, and you didn't mention that we are not dealing only with INF but that (?termination) of tactical missiles too. So you have a real double global zero. Of course, there is one point, you may call it a condition, whatever it is, the general secretary says provided the American side will reciprocate us, and provided (?at least) there is no enhancion [as heard] of American nuclear capabilities in the places where they have it.

[Kuznetsov] Mikhail Gorbachev said that the latest move, our latest move is a part of our program to rid the world of nuclear arms, all nuclear arms, by the year 2000, so I'd like you, Professor Plekhanov, to numerate some of the other provisions contained in the, in those replies by Mikhail Gorbachev. Dealing with other problems of arms control in that very important area, I agree with Professor Bogdanov 100 percent on that.

[Plekhanov] Yes, actually I think the best way to understand this offer by Mikhail Gorbachev is to view it in the context of the growing importance of the Asia-Pacific region. I recall a conversation I had with (Walter Hinkle), who was governor of Alaska, was in the 1970's, then he was secretary of the interior in the Nixon administration, now he's one of the major oil developers in Alaska. And he came to the Soviet Union, and he's interested in fostering cooperation, economic, technical cooperation between western states of the United States and the Soviet Far East. And he said: look, the importance of this area, the Pacific Basin, is growing, but people still keep looking at it as a back door, and they keep viewing the Atlantic, Europe and the Atlantic as a front door. We must stop looking, looking at the Pacific as a back door. It is increasingly getting to be the front door in terms of the development, the rates of economic development...

[Bogdanov, interrupting] Maybe not the front door, but the main gate. [laughter]

[Plekhanov] The main gate, maybe one of the main gates. And I think that this business with the 100 warheads belongs to this context rather than the offshoot. It's not an offshoot of the European, just the European talks. It's the start of a new, well actually not really a start, but a continuation of our new more vigorous, more active peace policy in the Asia-Pacific. And therefore this idea about those warheads is complemented by three other proposals.

[Kuznetsov] Aha, what are they?

[Plekhanov] One is basically a freeze on all other nuclear armaments, American and Soviet, in the area. That has to do primarily with the nuclear capable aircraft, the aircraft armed with nuclear weapons. We have them in the area, the United States has them, and we offer that we not increase those armaments. And we also regulate and control the activities of other armed forces, primarily the navies, the naval activities, exercises and so on, the deployments of naval forces in the Pacific in such a manner that we reduce to the minimum the risk of military conflict. Thirdly, there is the renewed call for a conference, an international conference on security in the Indian Ocean, demilitarizing the Indian Ocean. That is now a focus of increased international interest and great alarm in connection with the Persian Gulf.

And we are all for calling a conference, a United Nations conference, and there is such a resolution at the UN calling for such a conference in 1988 which would provide for, for a safer and more peaceful Indian Ocean. And fourthly, Mikhail Gorbachev reiterated our intent to press for a ban on all nuclear testing, and that is an issue which is especially sensitive to the people in the Pacific because some of the worst tests are being conducted there.

[Kuznetsov] Yeah, by France. Now let's touch upon the first reactions to the Soviet move. Overall the feeling was rather positive. Well, it was welcomed as good news that is supposed to put the Geneva arms control talks back on track, that it brings an agreement between the Soviet Union and the United States closer, although it does not clear the way for an agreement, as THE TIMES of London put it. In Washington, White House Spokesman Marlin Fitzwater treated the news also -- he put what I would say is a spoonful of tar in his bucket of honey by saying that, well, in the past the United States has seen very positive statements from the Soviet Union only to find out later on that they contain some unacceptable conditions for the United States. Do the Soviet offers now contain any...

[Bogdanov, interrupting] Pavel, Pavel, I'm not surprised at all. I would have been surprised if Mr Fitzwater put it differently, that they accept Soviet offer. You have to deal with some very funny (?cycle). They suggest something, then they try to find out reasons to kill their own proposals. At any Soviet offer they react in that way. Yes maybe it's OK, but let's wait (?and look). Let's study the offer because my impression is that still they have such powerful antidisarmament forces within this administration, and they still have to strike a deal among themselves. That's why Mr Fitzwater was putting in that very ambiguous way. I'm not surprised, I'm not surprised.

[Plekhanov] You know, according to the literature on the history of this zero option, which was first proposed by the Americans in 1981, you know, all the available information is that when they did put that proposal on the table, they were certain that the Russians would never take it, and I think that at least for some people in the administration, the very fact that the Russians did take that proposal up immediately makes that proposal unacceptable. I mean, if you pressed for something that you thought the other side would not accept and then the other side does accept it, your first reaction is: wait a minute, let me see, let me think now.

[Kuznetsov] OK, we've touched upon the Soviet role in promoting the Geneva arms control talks. I'd like to take a look at the other side, what the other side is doing, has been doing in fact. For example, on 17 July, while in Washington on a 1-day visit, Margaret Thatcher, British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher, said in part that great changes are taking place in the world, including historic changes in the Soviet Union. Since both leaders discussed arms control and, in particular, the issue of INF, I think that the words about unprecedented opportunity existing these days refer to the burning issues of arms control. But, at the same time, what surprises me is that, according to reports from Britain, they are about to complete the construction of yet another military base to station 64 Tomahawk nuclear-tipped American cruise missiles. So, if there is unprecedented opportunity, why continue with that base? Why not freeze it and wait for the outcome of the Geneva talks?

[Bogdanov] You, as usual, you have to deal with double standards. One standard for the Soviet Union, the other one for the Western world. And what they mean by unprecedented opportunity, what they mean by that, the opportunity for them, or the opportunity for us, and the opportunity for both of us. If you talk about the opportunity for one side, maybe you are right, building up this base. But if you mean the opportunity for both, then of course, it's really wrong move which makes the other side really suspicious about the real moves of the others, and that would be my answer to that.

[Kuznetsov] During the period of a temporary impasse at Geneva, and I think you know, there were a number of theories making rounds in the West concerning the intentions of Moscow with regard to the problem of the elimination of medium- and shorter-range weapons, and one of the theories was that the Soviet Union has cooled to the idea of a summit with Washington, and, therefore, it's just played for time and just kept waiting. What do you think of that?

[Plekhanov] I think the latest move by the Soviet Union just pulls the rug from under this idea, because it shows that we continue to press for an agreement, we continue to be constructive and flexible, and whatever happens in Washington is up to Washingtonians, Americans to decide. This has been our position on a constant base. If you recall the Watergate crisis, for instance, despite all the difficulties that were on the American side, that did not cause us to raise the level of our demands. That would be like, that would be contrary to the ethic of intergovernmental relations. The issues which are on the table are important enough, you know, to survive any administration, and you know, whatever happens with the Reagan administration, it's their problem.

[Kuznetsov] Yeah, by mentioning Watergate you came close to the second theory that was, and continues to be popular actually to this day, and it goes like: the President, the administration has been terribly weakened by the Iran-Contras scandal, and the Soviet Union would not like to bolster the image of the President, to throw him a lifejacket in the form of an INF accord. But what do you think about this theory?

[Bogdanov] I'm in a difficulty to give you an honest answer because...

[Kuznetsov] Why? Give us a dishonest answer then.

[Bogdanov] No, I wouldn't like to be dishonest with you, but frankly...

[Kuznetsov] Some kind of an answer then.

[Bogdanov] Frankly if I say that we are so much enthusiastic about helping this administration it would be very much dishonest about it. This administration, well, what for we should help them for what we have witnessed for the last 7 years, I don't know. But that's a rather emotional side of the story than practical. We have put it very clearly; this is a political reality, this administration. You like it or dislike it, you have to deal, and we have taken a firm decision to deal with them. But emotional side is little bit different thing. Whether we like them or dislike. I personally dislike them very much.

[Kusnetsov] Yeah, in other words, you've, what you've just said is that an arms control agreement is not a lifejacket, is not a gift to anybody. It's just...

[Bogdanov, interrupting] No, no, no. Look, we should be beyond that. We should. Arms control, that's the thing given by God to all of us, not to this administration.

[Kuznetsov] Yeah, Yeah, and just in case President Reagan benefits from it, it's beyond our business.

[Bogadnov] It's beyond our business, he's not benefiting. Peoples are benefiting from that, that's our view.

[Kuznetsov] Would you agree with that?

[Plekhanov] Yeah, I agree with that. And if the President does benefit from it, well, that would be for a change one honest benefit that we would have earned.

[Kuznetsov] As time's running out on us, I'd like you to sum up your impressions of the current situation. Your feelings about, well I'm not asking you to make any predictions, but to say what you feel about the prospects for an INF accord now that the ...

[Plekhanov, interrupting] Well, I think that the prospects have improved, but yet it's -- I feel reluctant to say -- oh well, now everything's OK. And one reason is that the INF agreement, the importance, the priority of it is somewhat lesser now in Washington than it used to be. Do you agree with that?

[Bogdanov] I agree with that and I always keep in mind the real capability of this administration to deliver, are they able, yet able to deliver?

[Kuznetsov] What is the major roadblock now, this is my final question. Your view?

[Plekhanov] Well, there is that question of 72 Pershing 1A's stationed in West Germany, armed with American nuclear warheads. The missiles are controled by the West German...

[Bogdanov, interrupting] Sergey, I'm not in agreement with you. I believe that the main block is on their lack of political will.

[Plekhanov] Yeah, that's right.

[Bogdanov] That's, that's what it is.

[Plekhanov] Politically, of course.

[Kuznetsov] So, if I am allowed, if you allow me to sum it up, the ball is in the American court now.

[Plekhanov] Oh, absolutely.

[Bogdanov] Yes, I think so.

[Kuznetsov] Thank you very much, Professors Radomir Bogdanov and Sergey Plekhanov, for taking part in our program. I'm Pavel Kuznetsov, your host on Top Priority signing off 'til next week at the same time on the same wavelength. Goodbye.

IZVESTIYA ON 23 JULY VORONTSOV NEWS CONFERENCE

PM271235 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 25 Jul 87 Morning Edition p 4

[A. Kuvshinnikov and V. Mikheyev report: "Diplomacy of Flexibility and Realism"]

[Excerpts] Meetings with journalists at the USSR Foreign Ministry press center, which always start promptly, convey a sense that time is of the essence. Dynamic diplomacy does not tolerate bustle, nor will it endure unjustifiable pauses. The content of foreign policy also dictates the style, which, at the 23 July news conference at the USSR Foreign Ministry press center, could be described in three words: realism, flexibility, and openness.

The news conference opened with a statement by Yu.M. Vorontsov, USSR first deputy foreign minister. [passage omitted]

Also taking part in the news conference were Marshal of the Soviet Union S.F. Akhromeyev, chief of the Armed Forces General Staff and USSR first deputy defense minister; A.I. Rogachev, USSR deputy foreign minister; V.P. Karpov, chief of the USSR Foreign Ministry Problems of Arms Control and Disarmament Administration; and G.I. Gerasimov, chief of the USSR Foreign Ministry Information Administration. They answered the numerous questions with which journalists literally bombarded them.

IZVESTIYA: Soviet officials have issued repeated statements that during the Reykjavik meeting we defended the right to retain 100 warheads on medium-range missiles in the Asian part of our territory, arguing that this was required by the demands of maintaining security. Could you set out in more specific terms the new factors that have allowed the USSR to alter its position on missiles in Asia?

S. Akhromeyev: First of all, we are not talking about a unilateral reduction, but a reciprocal reduction in a certain number of warheads and delivery vehicles for both medium-range and operational and tactical missiles. However, you are correct; at Reykjavik we did indeed defend a postion envisaging the retention of 100 warheads. The fact of the presence of U.S. nuclear weapons delivery vehicles in Japan and aircraft carriers in areas of the Pacific able to reach our territory were advanced as the argument for this.

Unfortunately, nuclear weapon delivery vehicles are still present on Japanese territory and aircraft carriers are still in the Pacific. But in this instance the Soviet leadership is assessing in a new way the situation in the world and the position of the Asian and Pacific countries and is counting on good will and a correct understanding of the Soviet position from these countries -- and not only understanding, but a corresponding political, and possibly military, reaction.

TRYBUNA LUDU: How do you assess the PRC's approach to questions of ensuring security in the Asia-Pacific region and its attitude toward the corresponding Soviet program?

I. Rogachev: We note with satisfaction that China's position on the problems of international security and disarmament displays features that have much in common with the position of the Soviet Union and the other socialist countries. I am referring to questions of averting nuclear war, eliminating nuclear, chemical, and bacteriological weapons, and preventing the creation of space weapons. China has supported the Rarotonga Treaty and the proposals to create nuclear-free zones in other parts of the Asia-Pacific region. China has stated its rejection of first use of nuclear weapons. All these facts mesh with the Soviet position.

... The Asia-Pacific region is sadly number one in terms of the number of "hot" spots, the intricacy of local conflicts, and the impact on the world situation of the international crises that arise there. Here is a statistic: Whereas in the first half of the 20th century all the major upheavals befell Europe, in the second half of the century only 20 out of the more than 250 military conflicts that have rent the world have taken place on the old continent.

During this period, nuclear tragedy was enacted for the first and only time precisely in Asia. It was in Asia that the longest war was waged. It was in Asia that armed clashes escalated, resulting in many states becoming involved in military operations. That is why it is no accident that the news conference has touched on questions of ways of settling regional conflicts, each of which has its own roots and own features.

THE WASHINGTON POST: According to General Secretary Gorbachev, the Soviet Union advocates the withdrawal of Soviet troops from Afghanistan on a very tight schedule. How long is that -- a year or a few months?

S. Akhromeyev: The Afghan Government is pursuing a policy of national reconciliation. That is, it is a question of reconciling hostile sides conducting combat operations and of creating a coalition government.

The main reason for the slow implementation of this policy is foreign interference in Afghanistan's internal affairs, primarily from Pakistani territory and from Iran. That is why the limited contingent of Soviet troops is still in Afghanistan. If the interference stops, Soviet troops could be withdrawn in a short time.

IZVESTIYA: Analogies in politics are very relative. Nonetheless, the national reconciliation process in Afghanistan has certain parallels with the progress of the settlement of the Cambodian problem. A timetable for the withdrawal of Vietnamese troops exists. Clearly, there are also other factors revealing a light at the end of the tunnel. What are they?

I. Rogachev: A very great role in the Cambodian settlement is played by the flexible and constructive position of the three Indochinese countries -- Cambodia, Vietnam, and Laos. This position promotes the settlement of the conflict prevailing there. The activeness of other interested parties has also increased. Various proposals and ideas for a political settlement to the situation in Indochina are being put forward.

In a number of cases we note a definite similarity in the positions of the interested parties. That is why we agree that there is indeed light at the end of the tunnel and, moreover, it is getting brighter and brighter. Needless to say, one should not think that the settlement process will take place on the basis of unilateral concessions on the part of the Cambodian and Vietnamese leadership. The process must be mutual and any movement must be reciprocated.

KRASNAYA ZVEZDA Summary

PM270950 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 25 Jul 87 First Edition p 5

[TASS report: "At the USSR Foreign Ministry Press Center"]

[Text] M.S. Gorbachev's answers to the questions put by the Indochinese newspaper MERDEKA have aroused tremendous interest in the broadest political and public circles. [paragraph continues]

In this connection a news conference for Soviet and foreign journalists was held in Moscow on 23 July, at which USSR First Deputy Foreign Minister Yu.M. Vorontsov spoke. We regard M.S. Gorbachev's answers to the newspaper MERDEKA, he stressed, as a continuation and development of the Vladivostok program of peace and security in the Asian and Pacific region, which was proclaimed a year ago.

Speaking of the need for measures to ensure reliable security in the region of Asia and the Pacific, the Soviet Union noted then and reaffirms now that we regard the Vladivostok program as an integral part of a comprehensive system of international security that could guarantee our planet against any unexpected occurrences and ensure lasting peace. Our proposals were developed and given concrete form during M.S. Gorbachev's visit to India in November 1986. The Delhi Declaration signed there on the principles of a nonviolent world free from nuclear weapons symbolizes a new stage in the development of politico-philosophical approaches to the key problems of interstate intercourse, and in this sense is called upon to play a fundamental role in the elaboration of an Asian and Pacific security system. The past year and its chief events have confirmed the correctness of the direction chosen. There has been a marked increase in the interests of states of the Asian and Pacific region in constructive political intercourse and in participation in the resolution of global issues and discussion of the problems of war and peace.

M.S. Gorbachev has now announced the Soviet Union's major new foreign policy initiative. We have declared our decision to agree to the elimination of all Soviet medium-range and operational and tactical missiles in the Asian part of the USSR. We have thus removed the question of keeping the 100 warheads on medium-range missiles in Asia and on U.S. territory under discussion at the Geneva talks with the United States.

In taking this step, the Soviet Government considered first and foremost the interest of the Asian countries in the total elimination of medium-range missiles, not only in Europe, but in Asia. This decision is commensurate with the desire on the part of the states of Asia and the Pacific to turn this region into a peaceful, nuclear-free zone.

I wish to stress particularly that in this instance the Soviet Union does not associate with this initiative the question of the U.S. nuclear presence in Korea, the Philippines, and Diego Garcia Island. At the same time, one would like to believe that this decision will give new impetus to the Geneva talks. After all, by removing the question of keeping 100 warheads on medium-range missiles in Asia, we have considerably simplified the technical procedures for verification. It is now a matter of a political decision by the U.S. side.

A number of concrete proposals to lessen military confrontation in the Asian and Pacific region also were put forward in M.S. Gorbachev's interview, in particular on reducing nuclear-capable aircraft, reducing the activity of the USSR and U.S. naval fleets in the Pacific, strengthening security in the Indian Ocean, and the limitation and total banning of nuclear tests.

The priority we attach to the military aspects of Asian security of which I have just spoken by no means belittles the importance of the problem of settling regional conflicts. These questions are closely linked: The existence of hot spots only steps up the danger of the activation of the military arsenal stockpiled in the Asian and Pacific region. We therefore are proceeding along parallel lines in the struggle for nuclear disarmament and nonmilitarization of the region and in our efforts to unblock conflict situatons in the region.

In the past year there has been some progress in this sphere, too. Nearly all the region's states have come to understand the impossibility of finding a way out of conflict situations by military means, and the trends toward dialogue and constructive discussions have strengthened. We understand that each of these conflicts has its roots, its "medical history," as M.S. Gorbachev said, its specific means of treatment. If all the interested parties proceed on this basis, and, most importantly, take into account the true interests of the countries and peoples directly involved in conflict, then it is possible to look to the future fairly confidently. The Soviet Union approaches the situation concerning Afghanistan, Cambodia, and the Korean peninsula and the Iran-Iraq conflict from precisely this standpoint.

I particularly wish to note that the DPRK Government has today put forward a new initiative -- on the reduction of the armed forces of the DPRK and South Korea in stages, by 1992, to 100,000 men on each side and the subsequent withdrawal of all U.S. troops from South Korea. The proposal also makes provision for a number of other measures to prevent military conflicts in that region in future.

We fully support this far-reaching initiative by Pyongyang and regard it as on a level with the concrete proposals of our friends on ridding the Korean peninsula of nuclear weapons as one of the important building blocks from which the new edifice of Asian and Pacific security will subsequently be shaped.

In conclusion, I would like once again to stress that in proposing the elaboration of a comprehensive security system for the Asian and Pacific region, we do not have in mind some kind of strict framework to be defined once and for all. On the contrary, we persistently repeat the idea that in creating a regional security structure priority is given to creativity and the open expression and discussion of any ideas and proposals by all interested countries, organizations, and even individuals. Only joint efforts and a profound commitment to the end result of joint labor can show the true path to the attainment of the goal set. We are confident that the realities of the region will call for specific approaches to the quest for forms of peaceful and secure development for the region.

We hope that the Vladivostok ideas, developed in M.S. Gorbachev's answers to MERDEKA, will take an appropriate place in joint efforts to create a zone of reliable security in Asia and the region of the Pacific and Indian Oceans.

Also taking part in the news conference were Marshal of the Soviet Union S.F. Akhromeyev, chief of the USSR Armed Forces General Staff and USSR first deputy defense minister; I.A. Rogachev, USSR deputy foreign minister; V.P. Karpov, chief of the USSR Foreign Ministry Problems of Arms Control and Disarmament Administration; and G.I. Gerasimov, chief of the USSR Foreign Ministry Information Administration.

Correspondents' questions were answered.

Question: What influence will the USSR's proposal on the elimination of all medium-range missiles have on the course of the Geneva talks?

Answer: The USSR has put forward this proposal to give a powerful boost to the talks and their successful completion. There are a number of questions that the United States puts forward and with which we do not agree. First, what should happen is the real, actual elimination of missiles, not their adaptation [peredelka], but specifically their elimination [likvidatsiya] and destruction [unichtozheniye], both on the Soviet side and on the U.S. side. We believe that there can be no question of any adaptation of these missiles.

Second, the warheads should be destroyed [unichtozheny] along with the delivery vehicles. Here the problem basically concerns the U.S. warheads intended for the Pershing-1A missiles belonging to the FRG. We believe that both the warheads on Pershing-2 missiles and ground-launched cruise missiles and the warheads for Pershing-1 missiles which are the property of the U.S. side should be withdrawn in accordance with an established procedure, and then eliminated [likvidirovany].

Third. The U.S. side puts forward unequal conditions for the procedure for the elimination of missiles. This may appear to be a technical question. But it has considerable military significance. We advocate that corresponding systems of the Soviet Union and the United States be eliminated gradually, according to an established schedule -- a 5-year period is being spoken of at the talks -- in equal percentage terms.

Fourth. The right of verification, the right to monitor fulfillment of the agreement, must be identical for both the United States and the USSR.

Today at an official session of the Soviet-U.S. talks in Geneva, the Soviet delegation will discuss all these questions with the U.S. delegation and will discuss them in hopes to seek the speediest resolution of these still unresolved questions.

Question: To what extent will Japan's involvement in the U.S. SDI program influence security in Asia?

Answer: Japan's participation in research under the U.S. SDI program cannot, in our view, help to strengthen security in the Asian and Pacific region or throughout the world. Our attitude to this Japanese Government step is negative.

Question: Will the new option for resolving the question of medium-range missiles be discussed at the meeting in Geneva?

Answer: Yes, certainly. It is for this purpose, and in the light of the latest initiative put forward by the general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, that this official session is being convened.

Question: The Soviet side considered the F-15 aircraft based in Japan to be one of the obstacles on the path to "double zero." What is your opinion on this score now? How will it affect the preparations for a summit meeting?

Answer: The USSR shows good will and is going halfway to meet not only the United States, but also the countries of the Asian and Pacific region, including Japan, which have expressed the wish that this question not be tied directly to the question of medium-range missiles. These countries, for their part, will doubtless also display good will to relax military tension. We expect Japan, too, to assess this step appropriately.

Now, as regards the work on a treaty on the elimination of medium- and shorter-range missiles and a possible new summit meeting: The work on the treaty has yet to be completed. This work is under way in Geneva. The sides have the potential to complete it if the United States finds an answer to a number of questions. The United States recently has been saying that the Soviet Union is somehow artificially dragging out the talks. That does not correspond to reality. The talks are being dragged out by virtue of the fact that a solution has not been found to important questions, first and foremost by the U.S. side. We expect the United States to put forward concrete proposals and to agree to the elimination of all warheads. Including those which they are at present keeping for missiles belonging to other countries.

In our opinion, real possibilities exist for completing the drafting of a document of full venue. If the treaty is agreed and initialed, the possibility of signing it at the highest level will be opened up.

Question: According to Washington, one factor prompting the United States to keep large armed forces in the regions of the Near and Middle East is the "Soviet threat to Turkey." NATO and the United States are exerting pressure on Ankara in hopes of rebasing in Turkey some of the Pershings which will be removed from Europe.

Answer: Claims that the USSR poses a threat to Turkey are refuted by the Turkish leadership itself -- both military and state leadership. As for the Pershing missiles, they cannot now (under the terms of the agreements being drawn up) be transferred anywhere. They are to be destroyed.

Question: Has the question of the elimination of medium-range missiles been discussed with the PRC? How do you assess its approach to questions of ensuring security in the Asian and Pacific region?

Answer: In making our decision, we took into account the wishes of various Asian countries, including the PRC.

China's position with regard to problems of international security and disarmament includes aspects which have much in common with the position of the Soviet Union and the other socialist countries. This applies to questions of preventing nuclear war, eliminating nuclear, chemical, and bacteriological weapons, and preventing the creation of space weapons. China has stated that it will not be the first to use nuclear weapons. All these aspects echo the Soviet position. We also note China's interest in developing broad, equal economic cooperation in the Asian and Pacific region.

Question: What are the prospects for a visit to Japan by M.S. Gorbachev?

Answer: This visit is still on the agenda. Some steps already have been taken for it to take place. But, unfortunately, the general atmosphere now existing in the Japanese mass media with regard to the Soviet Union and with regard to staffers of Soviet institutions does not favor the creation of the appropriate preconditions for a visit. Nonetheless, we will work by joint efforts for it to take place.

Question: Under the new conditions, does the USSR insist on access for its representation to U.S. bases abroad to monitor fulfillment of the agreement?

Answer: Of course it does. We must have total confidence that under the terms of the agreement everything that should be eliminated will indeed be eliminated. To this end we must have access to bases where U.S. missiles are stationed. We must have the opportunity also to check [proverit] those U.S. bases where there are no missiles at present, but where there are grounds to suppose that there could be, say, staging posts for the transshipment of missiles, and so forth. That is, verification must be all-round, giving us total confidence that the United States is fulfilling the terms of the agreement.

Question: Did the Soviet leaders consult with their allies on the new initiative, and what was their reaction?

Answer: Before putting forward the important new initiative, the Soviet leadership consulted with its allies and with a number of other countries. This was done in good time.

Other questions from journalists were also answered.

PRAVDA: LETTERS FROM ABROAD ENDORSE USSR POLICIES

PM270925 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 21 Jul 87 Second Edition p 4

[N. Bragin article: "'You Have the Truth on Your Side' -- Letters to M.S. Gorbachev From Abroad"]

[Excerpts] Every day letters, cables, and appeals come to Moscow from all ends of the earth addressed to M.S. Gorbachev, CPSU Central Committee general secretary. They express the fears and hopes of people of very different political convictions: fears for the fate of the world and hopes that the sinister shadow of thermonuclear war hanging over the planet can be dispelled and that human civilization can be saved from catastrophe. Foreign citizens write of the deep impression the progress of restructuring in the Soviet Union, the USSR's peace initiatives, and the Soviet leadership's innovative approach to solving the most important problems of the day are making on them. While in certain letters from abroad one can sense incomprehension of the essence of the processes under way in our country -- which are often distorted by the bourgeois mass media -- and doubts are expressed as to whether restructuring will be carried through to its conclusion, the majority of them sincerely wish us success in the restructuring under way in the USSR.

"Until recently," the Netherlander Henk van Osch writes, "I thought of the Soviet Union as a huge, mysterious, closed bastion. Its leaders seemed to be secretive people and the Soviet people were an anonymous mass with no distinguishing features. Your speeches and proposals have greatly changed my impression of the USSR. You have opened my eyes. I saw that the Soviet leader is concerned not only about the future of his country's people but also about the fate of the whole world. You clearly show that such people are in the majority in the USSR. This inspires new hope in me for a better future."

Analogous thoughts are expressed in letters from W. Foster of the United States, J. Eastland of Canada, F.J. Feron of Belgium, J. Thorpe and A. Williams of England, and citizens from other countries. "I would like to thank you personally for being able to show the whole world that you, as a leader, are dealing with the problems of the nuclear age very responsibly," the American J. Malberg notes. "Your determination to give your country a peaceful future and to achieve peace throughout the world makes a great impression on me.... I wish our President had this boldness, perspicacity, and sense of responsibility. The spirit of the "cold war" is still alive, but your bold actions have given rise to the opportunity for a thaw in relations both with the United States and with the whole world." [passage omitted]

Reflecting on ways to consolidate mutual understanding and trust between the United States and the Soviet Union, many Americans state that there is no more effective means for this than the implementation of real steps designed to limit the arms race and reduce and then destroy nuclear weapons.

Many Americans in their letters return again and again to the exceptionally important problem of our times -- the end of and a universal ban on nuclear testing. Expressing their approval of the initiative manifested by the Soviet Union -- the 18-month moratorium on nuclear weapons testing -- they say that the United States should listen to the voice of reason and reach agreement with the USSR concerning a ban on nuclear weapons testing. This call is found in particular in resolutions by the municipalities of the U.S. cities of Columbus, North Carolina, and Chesterfield, New Hampshire. The mayors of the aforementioned cities recently sent the texts of these resolutions to Moscow. [passage omitted]

With neighbors like the Soviet Union, the world -- in spite of everything -- seems to have quite a bright future, says a letter from Sweden. Its author, A. Ernst, writes: "I live with my family in a small town near the second largest lake in Sweden. Since I was a small girl I displayed interest in your country. And now -- although I can only write in Swedish -- I have decided to send you this letter and I hope that you will read it. I am delighted by the style of your work! I have heard and seen your speeches on radio and television, and they evoke in me and many other Swedes a feeling of great joy." [passage omitted]

But who is creating all the new obstacles and obstructions to the solution of the urgent problems of our time -- nuclear disarmament and the creation of an all-embracing system of international security?

People in the West are becoming increasingly aware of this. "I am not afraid of the Soviet Union," writes E. Richards, an Englishman. "I am more frightened by President Reagan and the U.S. Administration's militarist frenzy and also by the intransigence of Mrs Thatcher, who has not done anything positive during her 8 years in power in the interests of preserving peace on the planet."

The present U.S. Administration, C. Mathias, an American, states, "has hoodwinked many of my country's citizens over the last 6 years, but it will not succeed in deceiving history. President Reagan's refusal to accept your disarmament proposals during the important Iceland summit will remain in people's memory (if, of course, there is someone left to remember), as the biggest mistake made by a U.S. President. However, please, do not lose faith in the U.S. people. Accept the gratitude of an ordinary U.S. citizen for the worthy efforts of a real statesman to save mankind from nuclear catastrophe." U.S. citizens T. Sanders from Pacific Grove, Robert Borrow from Memphis, S. Parker from New York, and others write in agitation and with gratitude to the Soviet Government for its contribution to detente, to seeking ways for real disarmament, and to developing relations of businesslike cooperation with other countries, including the United States.

Throughout the world interest is growing in the internal political process in our country and in the progress of restructuring in the socioeconomic sphere and the democratization of public life. This is reflected in the letters arriving from abroad.

"I familiarized myself with your speech apropos the transformations in the life of the party and the Soviet state with great interest," U.S. teacher E. Koerr announces. "Many of us here in California wish you success. Reading your report, I was pleasantly surprised by the fact that the purpose of the planned changes is the improvement of the country's internal life and not the accumulation of strength for a struggle with capitalism."

Here is an opinion from a Belgian woman, F.J. Feron, "a Miss Average," as she herself writes, "who is full of common sense."

"I am a Belgian woman," she says in her letter, "I live in West Europe, in the same Europe as you, inhabited by people such as your people: good and bad, beautiful and ugly, clever and foolish, honest and dishonest. I was never a Communist. At one time I was a member of the Socialist Party, but now I'm more of a liberal or even a centrist."

"I am writing simply to convey my temendous delight in connection with the difficult, bold, and remarkable business which you have begun, namely: the gradual democratization of your institutes. Many people in the West see in you the emissary of the peace between East and West which is so longed for and so possible."

"There are still many skeptics in the world and people who do not trust you. Do not listen to them. Your determination and self-restraint will be a worthy response to them. If the United States does not follow the USSR's example, then it is doing the wrong thing." [passage omitted]

The spectrum of the international problems and issues raised by foreign citizens in their letters is wide and diverse. But the thoughts and expectations which they express are in keeping with those cherished by Soviet people and the peoples of the fraternal socialist countries, full of determination to do everything in their power to achieve the high and noble goal -- to provide mankind with the opportunity to live in conditions of a world free of nuclear weapons.

LAPSHIN, PETROSYANTS COMMENT ON IAEA ANNIVERSARY

Lapshin on New Stations

LD271515 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1225 GMT 27 Jul 87

[Text] Moscow, 27 Jul (TASS) -- The priority of atomic power engineering for the needs of the national economy remains the main direction of development of this industry, Aleksandr Lapshin, USSR deputy minister of the atomic power industry, has said. He was speaking today at a press conference devoted to the 30th anniversary of the IAEA. Academician Andranik Petrosyants and other leading specialists in this sphere took part in the meeting with Soviet and foreign journalists.

Aleksandr Lapshin announced that on 1 January this year the USSR was third in the world in terms of the volume of electricity generated at the 17 AES's it has currently in operation. The total capacity of the Soviet AES's amounts to approximately 11 percent of the capacity of all the USSR's electric power stations.

By 1990 the Soviet Union, Aleksandr Lapshin noted, intends to double the established capacity of its AES's, compared with that of 1985. Now 11 new stations are being built; by 1995 it is proposed to increase their number threefold, and by the end of the century fivefold.

Speaking of the situation at Chernobyl AES, Academician Andranik Petrosyants said that two of its sets are already operating normally and by the end of this year the third will be put on load. The technical and economic indices of its reactors are recognized by Soviet specialists to be lower than those of the water-cooled reactors, and for the present these will not be produced.

In reply to correspondents' questions it was announced that the trial of those responsible for the Chernobyl accident has nearly ended. Its sessions are accessible to press representatives. Thus, tomorrow 14 foreign journalists will go out to Chernobyl.

Petrosyants Praises Agency

PM281001 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 28 Jul 87 Morning Edition p 4

[TASS report: "IAEA's Important Tasks"]

[Text] The Soviet Union was the first of the great powers to ratify the charter of the IAEA, founded 30 years ago with a view to helping to develop atomic power engineering for peaceful purposes in all countries. A press conference held 27 July at the USSR Foreign Ministry Press Center was devoted to the 30th anniversary of this organization, unique for the world community.

The rapid development of atomic power engineering in the second half of our century has been an important factor of scientific and technical progress. At the same time it has set new social, economic, and political problems whose solution goes far beyond the framework of the potential of individual states. As A. Petrosyants, chairman of the USSR State Committee for Utilization of Atomic Energy, told journalists, the IAEA's humane and peaceful orientation has created for this organization a high degree of prestige among the scientific and engineering public in various countries. Today 113 states are members of the agency.

Nuclear technologies, in addition to power engineering, are also penetrating other spheres of human activity increasingly extensively. In this situation, A. Petrosyants stressed, the uncontrolled use of nuclear energy contains the danger that a wide range of countries may gain access to the production of nuclear weapons. A system of measures to prevent this danger is the second and no less important task of the IAEA, within whose framework a package of political, legal, and technical measures has been elaborated which the agency is implementing in accordance with the treaty on the nonproliferation of nuclear weapons.

Petrosyants Discusses Aid

LD271853 Moscow TASS in English 1654 GMT 27 Jul 87

[Text] Moscow July 27 TASS -- "The Soviet Union will continue to maintain active cooperation with the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) in accomplishing tasks of accelerating social and economic development of all countries," said Academician Andranik Petrosyants, chairman of the USSR State Committee for Utilization of Atomic Energy. He spoke at a news conference today to mark 30 years since the agency's founding.

The Soviet Union is exporting equipment and instruments for use in the economies of developing countries, organizing personnel training and sending its own experts. For instance, about 30 contracts were signed with developing countries to the total sum of some 6 million roubles.

The USSR is rendering assistance to developing countries on the basis of so-called volunteer budget which it makes available to the IAEA over and above its statutory contribution. Using these funds the agency is buying equipment and training national personnel for developing countries.

Bangladesh, Peru and Cuba are importing Soviet radiation (?services) which are used in the food industry and for disinfecting medical preparations. The Democratic People's Republic of Korea is importing Soviet-built cyclotrons. The Soviet Union is helping a number of countries with the modernization of reactors and is supplying them with fuel.

Annual courses for specialists in the peaceful uses of atomic energy from the emergent states have become a tradition in the USSR. They are intended for advanced training of specialists in such areas as the use of isotopes in medicine, utilization of research reactors in the national economy, radiation disinfection of grain and others.

PETROVSKIY RECEIVES UN MARITIME OFFICIAL 22 JULY

PM241531 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 24 Jul 87 Morning Edition p 4

[TASS report under general heading "Official Reports"]

[Text] USSR Deputy Foreign Minister V.F. Petrovskiy, had a conversation with C.P. Srivastava, secretary general of the UN International Maritime Organization, on 22 July. They discussed questions concerning the organization's activity in deepening mutually advantageous cooperation and collaboration between states in maritime navigation.

MURAKHOVSKIY MEETS FOREIGN DEPUTIES ON AGRICULTURE

LD27?211 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1314 GMT 27 Jul 87

[Text] Moscow, 27 Jul (TASS) -- A meeting took place in Moscow today between Vsevolod Murakhovskiy, first deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers and chairman of the USSR State Agro-industrial Committee, and heads of foreign diplomatic missions. Murakhovskiy delivered a paper on the development of the USSR's agro-industrial complex in light of the 27th CPSU Congress decisions, and he answered diplomats' questions.

The venue of the meeting was the Moskovskiy sovkhoz-cum-combine. The diplomats saw production facilities, a training center, and the farm-combine's settlement. They had conversations with those in charge of the farm and with ordinary laborers.

JOURNALISTS DOCUMENT STORY OF NEW U.S. EMBASSY

LD251011 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1855 GMT 23 Jul 87

[Special program entitled "The Story Behind the Scenes" on the recent controversy surrounding the U.S. Embassy in Moscow, presented by unidentified narrator, with journalists German Solomatin and Gennadiy Mironov and TASS Observer Viktor Ponomarev]

[Text] [Establishing shot shows old U.S. Embassy building then close-up of surveillance cameras mounted on its outside. The camera cuts to new U.S. Embassy building with God Bless America inscribed on its windows]

[Narrator] On the office building of the new U.S. Embassy complex, which stands like an orphan in Moscow, is the call: God Bless America. Who needs help and blessing? Blessing for what, and why? Is it really only God who can get to the bottom of the basic reasons behind the episode inspired by extreme right-wing circles with the participation of individuals in the U.S. Administration and Congress concerning the diplomatic missions of the two countries.

This row started in mid-April when Senator Leahy, the former deputy chairman of the Senate Select Committee on Intelligence, made an unexpected statement on television. The essence of this sensational statement, which was at once picked up by the U.S. press, was that a few Marine guards, under the influence of love charms, had allegedly allowed Soviet agents to enter the official quarters of the U.S. Embassy. [Video shows Leahy speaking against a background of picketers; accused Marines featured in TIME magazine]

With a chauvinistic mood aroused in the U.S., the big guns were not long in entering the fray. U.S. Secretary of Defense Caspar Weinberger stated: The Soviet Union has instigated large-scale espionage against the United States and all Western democracies. This espionage is being conducted everywhere, from the roof of its embassy in Washington, in the cabins on one of our aircraft carriers, and in the most secret rooms of our embassy in Moscow. [Video shows article in English-language magazine entitled "Spy Hysteria"; entrance to Marine Corps facility at Quantico; U.S. Embassy in Moscow]

An official White House spokesman spoke solemnly: In Washington, Soviet journalists, and this name clearly does not fit these people, receive the widest possible access to Congress, the Pentagon, and the White House. However, our journalists in Moscow are subjected to intimidation and arrests. This will no longer be the case. [Video shows Charles Redman addressing journalists; men running with camera; outside of U.S. Embassy in Moscow]

Conducting hearings on the issue of the U.S. Embassy in Moscow, the shocked Senate adopted a resolution calling on Secretary of State Shultz to abandon his visit to the USSR and talks with the Soviets. [Video shows Reagan, with Thomas O'Neill on his left, addressing Congress; Shultz and Shevardnadze walking together toward their seats opposite each other at table] Shultz, however, and one must give him his due, left for Moscow and his trip yielded a certain success in the development of Soviet-U.S. relations even though at a press conference in Moscow, he gave an extensive reply to a specific question in this regard by two U.S. journalists. [Video shows Shultz at press conference being asked two questions by two journalist and then replying]

[Shultz -- in English fading to Russian translation] The question is very clear, as the President said, namely, that in the new building, which we are now building and for which the Soviet Union provided materials, we have now discovered listening devices, an entire hive. [end Shultz]

The Soviet news agency TASS on Tverskoy Bulvar in Moscow has for several months now been receiving a flow of reports from the United States: "Violence against our country's private life" and "a direct attack against the U.S. Embassy" are quotes from high-ranking representatives of the administration. The Select Committee on Intelligence recommends that the administrative building be pulled down completely, and that everything be started all over again at the expense of the Soviet side.

[Video shows outside of TASS building on Tverskoy Bulvar; new U.S. Embassy building in Moscow] Other reports announce: President Reagan says that, evidently, he will have to give such an order: the three upper floors must be pulled down and a six-story superstructure must be erected where secret, especially important work will be conducted. Correspondents repeat the President's phrase: The Soviets have crossed the limit of what is reasonable in diplomatic relations.

The FBI attempted to dig a tunnel to the basement of the Soviet Consulate in San Francisco. It's pity we didn't succeed in doing that. [Video shows shots of a girl typing on keyboard at TASS; shots of news conference]

[Solomatin] We are in the teletype agency with TASS Observer Viktor Ponomarev. Viktor Vladimirovich, tell us, please, when did this row start about the U.S. Embassy in Moscow.

[Ponomarev] Well, practically this subject has not been off the front pages of U.S. press agencies and newspapers for very long. This is reported by virtually the entire world press. Reports from Washington, statements by officials are being picked up, especially by representatives of special services that deliberately whip up all these passions around the alleged spy row in the U.S. Embassy in Moscow. Well, virtually every day the agencies, especially U.S. agencies, are transmitting diverse variations on one and the same subject -- the old U.S. Embassy building and the new U.S. Embassy building. [Video shows Ponomarev in TASS teletype room being interviewed by Solomatin; Stratex text on computer screen which reads: "AP -- Case Against Marines Collapsing. Earlier this month, a lawyer for one of the Marines, Sergeant Clayton Lonetree, said a witness against his client had withdrawn a statement given to investigators"]

[Solomatin] Let us take a few examples of the reports that came in during this time.

[Ponomarev] Well, one can cite the very curious and frank admission by THE WASHINGTON POST. This is reported by our correspondent from Washington. This is what the paper writes. [Video shows Ponomarev picking up teleprinter printout and reading it aloud while Solomatin looks on, nodding all the time and smiling slightly] A possible threat is now hanging over the judicial prosecution against the Marines accused of having violated the security rules in U.S. diplomatic missions in connection with the lack of evidence, the withdrawal of statements by key witnesses, and the juridically incorrect conduct of the examination of the defendants. This is the belief of government officials and lawyers familiar with progress in the investigation. This is reported by THE WASHINGTON POST.

Here is another very curious report, in my view. This time the right-wing New York newspaper THE DAILY NEWS writes that the government does not have at its disposal any evidence for the charges against the Soviet Union. What is more, the paper stresses that after the start of the propaganda campaign, U.S. specialists, according to the newspaper, thoroughly examined the quarters of the U.S. Embassy in Moscow and didn't discover anything suspect there. We have become witnesses of a staggering disinformation campaign.

[Narrator] What do Americans themselves, on whom this avalanche of disinformation is descending, think of all this? At present, there are hundreds of Americans in Moscow on various business.

American tourists are travelling through Moscow. For them everything is a revelation: the city, the parks, the theaters, the smiling faces of Muscovites, cheerful and unfettered people. What are they being told in their homeland about these perfidious Russians who are only dreaming of depriving them by military might and spy plots of such dear freedoms as they themselves at home have conferred on themselves?

[Video shows American tourists climbing into buses taking guided tours through Moscow] There is their new U.S. Embassy about which so much is being spoken and written about in their homeland.

[Mironov addressing question to middle-aged male American tourist -- in English fading to Russian translations] Have you heard anything of the peace initiatives of the Soviet state, of your country's peace initiatives after the Reykjavik summit? Do you expect the new summit, about which much is being spoken about now, will nevertheless take place this year, well, say, in the United States?

[Tourist -- in English fading to Russian translation] Yes, of course, we are hearing a lot about this in the United Staces. This is one the main subjects in our country and, I am confident, throughout the world. We have great hopes that such a meeting will take place. Frankly speaking, in the past we thought the Soviet Government was agreeing to this unwillingly and too slowly. But now Mr Gorbachev, who we consider to be an outstanding statesman, has finally convinced us that you really want peace. We are cherishing great hopes for this meeting. We will hope that our government will support your government's proposal and will make use of the opportunity to preserve peace on our planet. This is our greatest concern now. We are all terrified of the threat of nuclear war.

[Mironov] I also hope that the summit will take place. Many people now favor a summit and a treaty on medium-range missiles and a number of other issues. But in the United Staes, perhaps you have heard of this, a campaign of rumors, speculative fabrications in connection with this building next to which we are now standing, the new U.S. Embassy building. What can you say in this regard?

[Tourist, smiling] We are hearing a great deal about the embassy and in some places we are even offended that we are not being taken seriously to such an extent. We understand; this is a game. This game has been played in the world since time immemorial. These things have happened in the relations between France and Germany and a number of other countries. Such a game is being played especially pointedly between the United States and the Soviet Union. We have done a poor job in defending ourselves. You have won this stage of the game. The U.S. Government, even though it is speaking a great deal about this and in this connection is not especially angry with you.

[Narrator] An argued evaluation of the situation that has come about was given by the Soviet side in a TASS statement that says:

Any ill-considered hostility, and especially any that is deliberately fomented, supported at the level of state leadership, is capable of preventing progress toward reaching agreement between the USSR and the United States. U.S. ultra-rightist circles have chosen the periphery of bilateral relations as a springboard for their counteroffensive.

[Video shows 10 July issue of PRAVDA and IZVESTIYA with TASS statement, then cuts to aerial views of new U.S. Embassy complex and other nearby buildings] Let us acquaint ourselves in greater detail with the new U.S. Embassy complex and the circumstances of its construction. The complex is located in one of the most respectable parts of the USSR capital near CEMA Headquarters, the RSFSR Council of Ministers building, the International Trade Center, Kutuzovskiy Prospekt, and generally, the well-known diplomatic residential area 2 miles from the center of Moscow, the Kremlin, and Red Square, and 200 meters from the old embassy building. The plans for the complex were drawn up by eminent U.S. architects and were approved by the U.S. Administration and Congress, which allocated the corresponding appropriations for this purpose.

[Video shows roads within complex and children with bikes outside embassy residential building] As a result, a complex has appeared in the center of Moscow for the U.S. diplomatic mission, where all conditions have been created for the normal work and life of U.S. diplomats. Excluding the administrative building, the premises for the consular section, a cafeteria, a shop, a large garage, and underground sports amenities are already being used. All four residential buildings are now housing the families of embassy staff.

As you can see, this location has nothing in common with the impassable bog into which respectable Americans are being confidingly told their diplomats have been driven. The construction in accordance with an intergovernmenal contract on a site chosen by the United States itself was carried out by U.S. and Soviet specialists under the most careful and all around supervision by the U.S. side.

[Video shows Eduard Solovyev, chief engineer of the Inpredstroy Construction and Assembly Association -- identified by caption]

[Solovyev] The constructon of the U.S. Embassy was completed last year. [Video shows close-up of English-language act of release/acceptance document for U.S. Embassy buildings] It was joint work involving many specialities; however, I would emphasize there was constant supervision over practically every type of work being conducted. With regard to our specialists, if one is speaking about the bricklayers or the plasterers or the plumbers or the electricians, then their practical work was carried out only with the involvement of the U.S. supervisory organization. When two or three of our bricklayers would be erecting a brick wall, there would be a U.S. representative standing alongside them or behind them.

How then was the checking carried out? There was an entire system. Indeed, at the office building, enhanced radiation was created at the site by means of a U.S. X-ray apparatus. We were even forced to withdraw the whole complement of Soviet workers from the embassy until a normal radiation level was reestablished. Indeed, even the most advanced methods were employed to monitor our ferroconcrete structures and the brick structures and other things, too.

[Video shows U.S. security officials behind railing] Since August 1985, our workers, engineers, and technicians have practically not been admitted to that building. One Monday, at the request and requirement of the U.S. side, all work without exception was halted. Another thing I should mention about that day, we were nevertheless there. That is to say, the two of us engineers were there accompanied by a large group of U.S. staff. Behind drawn blinds and closed doors there was an inspection of a number by flashlights. There were 12-15 people accompanying us.

The relations between our country at present may not be perhaps completely good. Perhaps such rumpuses, uproars, and hullabaloos do arise but for what reason is simply incomprehensible. I am confident and believe the case will be that after our relations have changed a little this office building will be in operation fulfilling its functions. [Video shows view through engineer's office window of the embassy office block]

[Narrator] What is it all really about then, and why is the complete entry into operation of the new embassy complexes in Moscow and Washington being delayed? An answer to this question is provided by the essence of the campaign that has arisen and has been developing in accordance with the scenario of those same right-wing forces in the United States' special services who have needed acutely to create a smokescreen to camouflage their own special services activities in Washington and Moscow.

[Video shows press conference at the USSR Embassy in Washington with unidentified speaker saying: Recently during construction work carried out by Soviet specialists at the premises of the new service building, eavesdropping apparatuses of the U.S. special forces were discovered. They had been installed during the construction of this building.]

[Narrator] It turns out, Mr Shultz, that it was not in the U.S. Embassy in Moscow but in the Soviet Embassy in Washington that this hive of special intelligence equipment was discovered. [Video shows Shultz inspecting construction work and then at press conference] The failure of Washington's special services is obvious. [Video shows exposed listening devices in plasterwork] But there is still an interest in Moscow and there are acknowledgements that at this stage the KGB has outplayed the CIA. [Video shows Senator Robert Dole addressing journalists] The hypocritical tears of hurt and vexation are being shed by Dole, the Republican leader in the Senate. They are still in the top league and we are in the bottom league, he says.

In this connection nothing else remains but to remind Mr Dole of a number of facts. Surely Mr Dole knows about the special group at the CIA called (?Gamma Guppy) or about the testimony by Richard Perle, U.S. assistant secretary of defense, at special hearings of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee on 26 March. [Video shows Richard Perle at rostrum during hearings] Then one should recall that the (?Gamma Guppy) group has for a long time and on an extensive scale been conducting electronic espionage in Moscow with the aid of equipment covered by plywood boxes on the roof of the old U.S. embassy building in Moscow. [Video shows aerial shot of structures on roof of old U.S. Embassy building. One of the structures is shown encircled by a red circle on the screen] How hypocritical the tittle-tattle about the irradiation of the U.S. Embassy by the Russians appears in this connection. It is not the embassy that is being irradiated but indeed the embassy that is irradiating, and fairly extensively, the surrounding residential buildings and the Muscovites who complain about serious interference with their television reception.

Another reason for this is that certain persons in Washington, who are not satisfied with the possibilities of the new complex for conducting radio-technical espionage, are complaining that the building is rather low-down for electronic eavesdropping on the Soviet capital and want very much to raise it. [Video shows aerial view of old and new U.S. Embassy buildings]

[Video shows Solomatin speaking to camera with U.S. Embassy complex in background]

[Solomatin] Perhaps it has not been worthwhile paying so much attention to the whims of the U.S. side, of which there have been many and on any pretext, and which we have grown accustomed to in our relations. If all this has poisoned the atmosphere of growing trust between the two peoples in conditions of openness and a democratization of present-day international relations, and if all this has not deprived us of the hope that has appeared of a normalization of Soviet-U.S. relations and the mutual understanding that has taken shape between the USSR and the United States on key issues of disarmament and the prospect of achieving practical accords on reducing and eliminating nuclear weapons. [Video shows U.S. peace marchers]

CARLUCCI REITERATES ESCORTS SERVE AS 'PROTECTION'

PM271245 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 25 Jul 87 Second Edition p 5

[TASS report under the general heading "Hot Spots of the World": "The Persian Gulf: Continuing Tension"]

[Text] Washington, 24 Jul -- At a meeting with U.S. journalists on Thursday, U.S. National Security Adviser Frank Carlucci claimed the United States "has no intention of being drawn into the Iran-Iraq armed conflict." At the same time he noted the administration's resolve to pursue its former policy in the Persian Gulf.

Carlucci attempted to use the need for "protection" to justify the White House's decision to escort Kuwaiti tankers with U.S. Navy ships. "We are protecting ourselves against terrorists," he said, "and our ships provide a defense against attack on the high seas." However, the President's adviser did not specify why the United States has had to concentrate 15 warships -- including the aircraft carrier "Constellation" -- in the Persian Gulf and the surrounding area for these purposes, or why the Pentagon is hatching plans to further build its forces in the region.

PRAVDA VIEWS REAGAN 'CAPTIVE NATIONS' PROCLAMATION

PM270915 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 22 Jul 87 Second Edition p 5

[Article by PRAVDA Political Observer Yuriy Zhukov: "Is It Not Time to Return to Reality?"]

[Text] The lack of political realism is making itself increasingly sharply felt in Washington. While the broadest circles of the American public, including businessmen and even many conservative statesmen, are urgently advising the government to respond to the Soviet initiatives that open the way to strengthening peace and mutually advantageous cooperation, the leaders of the present administration keep taking steps at variance with these recommendations.

The Kremlin's calls for new thinking, for a consideration of the global interests of all peoples irrespective of the ideology that guides them, and for a search for solutions that would ensure mankind's survival are finding increasing understanding and encountering growing support among the majority of Americans.

For example, the conservative JOURNAL OF COMMERCE, a mouthpiece for the interests of big American capital, has felt it necessary to say: "The Soviet Union's new image requires a more flexible foreign policy reaction from the United States. The automatic anticommunism that contented itself with labelling the Soviet Union the 'empire of evil' must give way to serious, sober analysis."

Why does the present U.S. Administration so stubbornly refuse to draw the logical conclusions from what is going on around it? Why is Washington constantly delivering bellicose speeches?

Just last Saturday, while vacationing for a few days at his Camp David residence, the U.S. President issued an anti-Soviet proclamation on the holding of "Captive Nations Week" in the United States.

In his proclamation R. Reagan repeats word for word his favorite slanderous attacks on the Soviet Union and tries to incite the peoples of our country and the fraternal socialist states, and also developing countries that maintain friendly relations with us, to fight to overthrow the system won in battle against the oppressors.

What is more, he promises them support: "All captive nations (and the U.S. President includes the Ukraine, Latvia, and Moldavia in this category -- Yu.Zh.) deserve and require our special support. For those seeking to enjoy humanity's birthright of liberty, independence, and justice, we serve as guardians (?!) of their dream."

One cannot help but recall here Kozma Prutkov's lines on the sad Baron von Greenwaldus who "clad in his armor and visor" "moves not, drinks not, eats not. Year follows year... Baron von Greenwaldus, that valiant knight, still sits in the same position on his boulder"....

"Captive Nations Week," as the President mentioned in his proclamation, has been held in the United States for "almost 30 years." This is no accident, of course. The newspaper JOURNAL OF COMMERCE writes "ever since World War II, rigid anticommunism has been a distinguishing reature of the U.S. world outlook. It is based on the belief that communism... poses a threat to the peace and freedom of what the Americans, with pride and sometimes with egocentric overtones, call the 'free world.' Containing this supposed threat has been the main aim of U.S. foreign policy from Vietnam to Angola."

What are they hoping for, these gentlemen who try again and again to turn back the clock of history? Surely Washington must understand that inflammatory appeals, like the latest anti-Soviet proclamation by the President, can only produce a result directly opposite to that anticipated by their authors.

Especially as people in socialist countries understand perfectly well what is going on around them. If we are talking about captive nations, they are well aware who these nations are: Every schoolboy knows, for example, about the tragic fate of the American Indians. And who does not know about the United States' discrimination against its multimillion black community, the descendants of the negroes transported from Africa and sold into slavery to American plantation owners? And who does not know about the hard lot of Puerto Rican and Mexican Americans?

In his proclamation the U.S. President hypocritically voiced concern for the fate of "brave individuals" who "suffer because of their nationality, faith, and desire for human rights." He has an excellent opportunity to help these individuals suffering in American jails -- L. Peltier, for instance, serving two life sentences for fighting for his fellow Indians' rights.

Now and again the U.S. President speaks in favor of developing normal relations with the USSR. The Soviet public welcomes these wishes. It approved of the results of the two Soviet-American summit meetings, which contributed to progress along the road to ending the nuclear arms race, normalizing interstate relations, and building mutually advantageous cooperation.

The signing of a general agreement on exchanges and contacts in the scientific, educational, and cultural spheres in Geneva on 21 November 1985 was very important in this respect. Useful Soviet-American ties are already developing on this basis, albeit not without difficulties created by the American side.

But how does all this tie up with such clearly expressed relapses into the old, long bankrupt policy of interfering in others' affairs and with the latest attempts to encourage subversive activity against countries whose systems are not to Washington's liking? How can you extend one hand to your partner while holding a pistol aimed at him in your other?

We live in the real world, which is extraordinarily complex and multifaceted. It is inconceivable, without dissociating yourself from reality, to dream of all nations lining up in order of size and marching beneath the stars and stripes, singing "God Bless America." Ideas like this, as proven by many sober-minded Americans, are fraught with the most dangerous consequences for all mankind.

So is it not time this was understood by the knight "clad in his armor and visor" who "still sits in the same position on his boulder" refusing to reckon with a reality that demands constructive, businesslike action capable of reducing international tension, ending the arms race, and building cooperation based on mutual benefit?

GENRI SEES BASIS FOR 'LASTING' U.S.-SOVIET PEACE

PM241351 Moscow SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA in Russian 24 Jul 87 Second Edition p 5

[Ernst Genri article: "Kremlin Puts Forward Concept of 'Global Double Zero Option'" -- capitalized words between slantlines printed in boldface]

[Text] M.S. Gorbachev, answering questions put by the Indonesian newspaper MERDEKA, has just announced that the Soviet Union is prepared to destroy /ALL ITS MEDIUM-RANGE MISSILES IN THE ASIAN PART OF THE COUNTRY TOO/, that is, it is prepared to remove the issue of keeping the 100 warheads on medium-range missiles being discussed at the Geneva talks with the Americans, on the condition, of course, that the United States does the same. Operational and tactical missiles would also be eliminated.

This important initiative is the best possible answer to the propaganda ballyhoo that has been whipped up in the West over the past few weeks. Constant noises are made on the lines that to achieve a real change for the better in international relations Moscow must adopt a more active stance, the Soviet Union must take another step. [paragraph continues]

This refers now to a specific sphere of the disarmament talks, now to verification problems, and now to humanitarian cooperation. Only a blind man could claim to be unable to see how many such steps have been taken and what part of the overall distance has been covered by our country.

It is sometimes claimed that to reconcile two opponents it takes a third contender, stronger than either of them and threatening them both equally. Does this mean that the USSR and the United States can permit themselves to wait until hypothetical inhabitants from outer space appear and reconcile them by creating a new threat of universal destruction to replace the nuclear threat they themselves have created?

The plan for good-neighborly cooperation between the two great powers is, according to the Washington opponents of such a policy, totally unrealistic because of the insurmountable differences between them on key issues. At least, this is what these circles claim.

We also believe that the basis of our contradictions is of a profoundly economic, political, and ideological nature rather than the transient product of a confrontational frame of mind.

However, the only thing the Soviet Union wants from the United States is a lowering of the war danger and a lasting, immutable peace. As M.S. Gorbachev said in his interview with B.M. Diah, chief editor of the Indonesian newspaper MERDEKA, about relations with the United States: "...we are hoping for cooperation with that country too." Against the backdrop of such a peace, everything else in our relations will arrange itself of its own accord.

However, it would be a serious mistake to assume that there are no influential groups in the United States which favor normal, mutually advantageous relations with the USSR. Without any doubt, such forces do exist in America, and they are interested in both the speediest possible end to the senseless arms race and broad economic cooperation with the socialist world.

These politicians are frequently connected with major corporations outside the military-industrial complex which are most of all interested in marketing nonmilitary goods. The U.S. military-industrial complex is indeed very strong and has grown even stronger under Reagan. It has the backing of billionaries in California and Texas, but nonetheless it is not omnipotent. The opponents of peaceful coexistence tend to forget the fact, but the civilian sector of U.S. big business employs a substantial majority of U.S. workers.

This year marks the 15th anniversary of the signing of many Soviet-American documents that concern the bases of our relations, are aimed at preventing nuclear war, and contain quite specific agreements on cooperation in science, technology, and culture.

I very much hope that the development in the diametrically opposite direction that marked the first half of the eighties is a temporary aberration, a mere coincidence of foreign and domestic policy circumstances in Washington.

It is vitally important today that the people in Washington also grasp the fact M.S. Gorbachev put as follows in his interview with B.M. Diah: "The problems of international politics can no longer be resolved through war today. This method is fraught with unpredictable consequences."

Fundamental criticism by Moscow of Washington's imperialist aspirations is, of course, inevitable, just like Washington's criticism of the Soviet people's socialist persuasions. Differences, including differences on regional problems, will persist: They are a fact of international life. However, this need by no means signify the two sides' refusal jointly to implement a firm and practical policy of peace, within the framework of the new thinking typified by M.S. Gorbachev's answers to questions from MERDEKA.

U.S. RESTRICTIONS ON BLOC JOURNALISTS REMAIN

PM2S0931 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 23 Jul 87 Morning Edition p 4

[Unattributed report under the general heading "A Strange Stance": "Discrimination Against Warsaw Pact Countries' Journalists in the United States"]

[Text] The discriminatory measures taken by the U.S. authorities against journalists from the USSR and a number of socialist countries accredited in the United States remain in force. In particular, they limit Soviet journalists' opportunitites to attend White House and State Department briefings.

According to figures from the USSR Foreign Ministry Information Administration, only 4 of the 30 Soviet correspondents working in Washington have White House passes. Whereas the passes for the other foreign journalists are valid for 1 year, for Soviet journalists their validity is just 2 months. Passes to the White House Press Department have still not been issued to the correspondents of PRAVDA, IZVESTIYA, the State Committee for Television and Radio Broadcasting, and TASS, even though the official letters requesting passes were sent by the Soviet Embassy at least 1 year ago and, in some cases, 18 months ago.

DSP LEADER TO DELIVER NAKASONE LETTER TO GORBACHEV

OW280835 Tokyo KYODO in English 0723 GMT 28 July 87

[Text] Japanese Prime Minister Yasuhiro Nakasone has renewed his call for Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev to visit Japan at an early date, a Japanese opposition leader said here Monday. Saburo Tsukamoto, chairman of the No. 3 opposition Democratic Socialist Party, said he would convey a verbal message from Nakasone regretting Gorbachev's failure to meet Japan's request for him to visit Tokyo by the end of last January. Tsukamoto said he would deliver the message to an unidentified senior member of the Soviet Communist Party Central Committee who he was to meet Wednesday.

In Tokyo, Nakasone told reporters Monday evening he talked with Tsukamoto over the telephone and asked him to convey a verbal message to the Kremlin leader. The prime minister declined to reveal details of the message.

Tsukamoto arrived in Moscow Sunday leading a DSP delegation. The mission is scheduled to stay in Moscow through August 2 and will go to Finland before returning to Tokyo August 4.

Nakasone's letter also welcomes Moscow's recent proposal aimed at eliminating all intermediate-range nuclear force (INF) missiles, including those deployed in the Asian region. It further expresses the hope that Gorbachev will conduct serious negotiations with the United States leading to a summit with U.S. President Ronald Reagan by the end of this year, Tsukamoto said.

In a recent interview with an Indonesian newspaper, Gorbachev showed his readiness for a Japan visit, but indicated at the same time that a cloud over Japan-Soviet relations makes such a visit difficult at present. The Soviets say Japan's exposure of Soviet-related spy cases in Japan, Toshiba Machine's COCOM rules violation in its sensitive machine exports to the Soviet Union and Japan's participation in the U.S. Strategic Defense Initiative (SDI), or Star Wars, plan are having an adverse effect on Tokyo-Moscow relations.

Also on Monday, Tsukamoto and his group met Petr N. Demichev, vice chairman of the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet, and asked for the Soviet Union to expand the program allowing Japanese families to visit their relatives' graves on the northern islands east of Hokkaido. Demichev and Tsukamoto agreed in principle on working-level consultations on the problem to be held later, according to Tsukamoto. The Soviet Union permitted Japanese families to visit the islands last year for the first time in 11 years. The Japanese side has been seeking to expand the program and Moscow now seems ready to meet the request, Tsukamoto said.

Japan continues to claim territorial rights to the four northern islands which fell into Soviet hands after World War II.

DMITRIYEV VIEWS SOVIET-JAPANESE RELATIONS

OW261131 Moscow in Japanese to Japan 1200 GMT 24 Jul 87

[Dmitriyev commentary]

[Text] CPSU Central Committee General Secretary Gorbachev answered questions regarding the development of Soviet-Japanese relations in his recent interview given to MERDEKA, an Indonesian newspaper. Radio Moscow commentator Dmitriyev has the following comments:

General Secretary Gorbachev pointed out that efforts have been made for the last several years to normalize Soviet-Japanese relations and that now is a good time to establish a sincere and firm partnership between the two countries.

These efforts bore fruit last year and Soviet and Japanese foreign ministers visited each other's countries. As a result, joint communiques were signed, clearly stating that the two countries hold the same views concerning some international questions and bilateral relations. With regard to bilateral relations in particular, the two countries expressed the conviction that they should continuously be promoted in the future. The question of General Secretary Gorbachev's visit to Japan was also placed on the agenda. All this has created the well-grounded expectation that the two countries can practically establish a sincere and firm partnership. The Soviet Union has clearly expressed its readiness to work together toward this goal.

At his meeting with then Foreign Minister Abe in May last year, General Secretary Gorbachev stressed that the Soviet Union had made a principled, political decision to make every possible effort to develop and improve relations with Japan irrespective of Japan's relations with other countries.

Forward-looking development of Soviet-Japanese relations will bring a great many benefits to the peoples of the two countries and to others. The Soviet Union and Japan have different social and economic systems, but each carries considerable objective weight in international relations in its own unique way. Each does so particularly regarding Asia and the Pacific. Firm establishment of normal relations between the Soviet Union and Japan will be an important factor in the stability of this region.

However, as is known, the Soviet Union and Japan have not yet concluded a peace treaty. If mutually beneficial trade and economic cooperation is expanded, the peoples of the two countries will undoubtedly benefit from it. In particular, the Soviet Union and Japan are geographically proximate to each other, and their economic structures have mutually complementary characters. This facilitates their trade and economic cooperation.

The peoples of the two countries have traditionally had an interest in each other's cultures and hope to expand cultural exchanges. These cultural exchanges will also be promoted if overall political relations improve. Needless to say, cultural exchanges will help remove the feelings of distrust, an unnecessary source of constant irritation.

Among the benefits which the peoples of the Soviet Union and Japan have received from the improvement of bilateral relations is the affirmative solution of the bomb visit issue. A poll conducted by YOMIURI SHIMBUN in November last year revealed that about 57 percent of the Japanese people expressed the hope for closer relations between the Soviet Union and Japan.

The majority of the Soviet people also entertain the same hope. However, as was pointed out by Mr Gorbachev, the leader of the Soviet Union, in the MERDEKA interview, a force has emerged again in Japan which dares to produce dark clouds over these relations. For example, this force is represented by an anti-Soviet campaign surrounding the so-called Toshiba Machine incident, as well as the Japanese authorities' unwarranted accusations against a number of Soviet people.

No matter what has motivated these activities, it is certain that they will not contribute to improving Soviet-Japanese relations and that they will run counter to the fundamental interests of the peoples of the two countries. It is hoped that these recent activities will not lead to a new freeze in relations. If so, both Japan and the Soviet Union will gain nothing, but will sustain tremendous losses.

DPRK PROPOSES 1988-91 TROOP REDUCTION PLAN

SK250431 Moscow International Service in Korean 0930 GMT 24 Jul 87

[Text] The DPRK Govrnment has advanced a proposal designed to noticeably reduce troops on the Korean peninsula. This new proposal advanced by the Republic foresees that the North and South will each reduce their troops to 100,000 during the period from 1988 to 1991. During this period, the United States should withdraw its military troops and nuclear weapons from South Korea. The spokesman of the Soviet Ministry of Foreign Affairs, in a press conference conducted in Moscow, stated that the Soviet Union totally supports this far-sighted proposal by Pyongyang.

MPR'S BATMONH SUPPORTS GORBACHEV DISARMAMENT PLANS

OW260947 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1137 GMT 25 Jul 87

[From the Novosti newscast]

[Text] The Mongolian people and government welcome and support the new Soviet proposals. This was said in the statement of Jambyn Batmonh, General Secretary of the Mongolian People's Revolutionary Party [MPRP] Central Committee, made at the MPRP Central Committee Politburo session. Implementation of the Soviet initiatives would promote lessening tension and distrust and would make the sea and air communication routes in the Pacific and Indian Oceans secure.

MOSCOW RADIO ANSWERS ISRAEL'S PERES ON MISSILES

TA271931 Moscow Radio Peace and Progress in Hebrew 1630 GMT 27 Jul 87

[Unattributed commentary]

[Text] Vice Prime Minister Shim'on Peres has issued an announcement relating to Moscow Radio Peace and Progress broadcasts about the Israeli intermediate-range missiles and the Soviet peace initiatives favoring disarmament of this type of missile in Asia. These broadcasts said that if Israel begins to deploy intermediate-range nuclear missiles, it will also put itself in jeopardy. In this context Mr Peres said that Israel does not regard the Soviet Union as a potential enemy and that Israel does not constitute a threat to the Soviet Union.

Statements by such figures as Shim'on Peres must not, of course, be ignored. And the media in many countries have publicized the foreign minister's remarks, giving them wide coverage. But because Mr Peres was referring to a program by our station, we feel it is our duty to react: first, to the absence of hostile Israeli intentions toward the Soviet Union. The Soviet public has no doubt that the Israeli people do not regard us as enemies. However, there are, regrettably, elements who think otherwise. The members of the institutionalized right -- one of whom, as is known, now heads the government -- have made absolutely anti-Soviet statements on more than one occasion. These same people have on occasion called for Israel to be turned into a U.S. bridgehead, a process crowned by the signing of the strategic alliance agreement. That agreement remains valid today, and it is overtly aimed against the Soviet Union, so that talk of the absence of hostile intentions are a clear attempt to sweeten a bitter pill. Israel's leaders also know well that the Soviet Union regards the U.S. SDI [preceding acronym in English] program with gravity. This is a program whose main objective is to harm our country's security; and Israel, as is known, has agreed to participate in this program and thus lent a hand to an absolutely anti-Soviet project. After all, this proves that Israel's leaders share the hostile intentions felt by certain circles in the U.S. establishment toward us.

But let us return to the topic of the missiles. Mr Peres claims that the Jericho-2 missiles will not jeopardize the southern part of the Soviet Union. In fact, we also do not think that Israel is capable of creating a genuine threat to the Soviet Union's security, even if only because of the enormous gap between the political-security potentials.

However, this does not mean that there could be no danger to our country from Israeli territory. Anyone in Israel who says this is showing naivete, if not stupidity. After all, even the Alignment leaders have repeated that any decision made in Israel requires approval from Washington and that there have been quite a few decisions made under U.S. pressure. This was the reasoning in the affair of the Voice of America transmitters, for instance. The Israeli agreement at the time, according to figures in the establishment, was made in the wake of a specific demand by the big uncle.

Here is the place for a question: If Israel has, to a certain extent, lost the freedom of national decision, is it not reasonable to assume that on the issue of the intermediate-range missiles the Americans will again have the upper hand? Every battery of the Jericho-2 missiles could certainly be another symbol on the Pentagon's map, that map with the arrows pointing to the centers of economy and government in the Soviet Union, including the oil fields near Baku.

This was, in fact, the meaning of our broadcasts: that there is a tangible danger that Israel will become a (?site for) [word indistinct] the borders of the Soviet Union, (?a site) without U.S. weapons, without U.S. technicians, but under the patronage of Pentagon staff, who will decide on the targets. Here, in our view, is the greatest danger regarding [legabey] Israel.

One of the reactions published in Israel in the wake of the Moscow Radio Peace and Progress broadcast noted that the Soviet Union may be trying to show Israel what steps it should take if it intends to genuinely improve its relations with us. Here it is worth emphasizing, first and foremost, that we do not dictate to other countries what they should do, or how. However, the development of the Middle East situation leads us to the conclusion that the current path is leading Israel to confrontation; intermediate-range missiles and, even more so, intermediate-range nuclear missiles, constitute weapons for delivering the first strike. It is impossible to interpret the development of the Jericho-2 missiles in Israel in any other way. And if this leads the Soviet Union, at worst, to take suitable political or security measures, there are countries that have on more than one occasion already been victims of Israeli adventures and for whom the development of the Jericho missile could lead to moves whose consequences cannot be imagined. From this we come to the conclusion that the Soviet initiative for removing the intermediate-range missiles in Asia is also in line with the interests of healing the general situation and with the defense interests of Israel itself. This must be understood by all circles in Israel.

BELYAYEV WRITES ON NEED TO HALT GULF WAR

PM271049 Moscow LITERATURNAYA GAZETA in Russian 22 Jul 87 p 9

[Igor Belyayev "Observer's Opinion": "Lie and Reality"]

[Text] It seems that something extraordinarily important, even instructive, has occurred in the acute, explosively dangerous situation in the Persian Gulf region. Soviet Navy ships have entered the waters of the Gulf. Their functions are clearly defined -- to accompany Soviet ships calling in at the ports of littoral Arab countries. In actual fact the Soviet warships were sent into the Persian Gulf with the latter's agreement. I recall that two Soviet tankers were damaged there as a result of an Iranian Air Force attack. The Soviet Union does not intend to allow anything like this to continue. It is in fact this which brought about the Soviet counteractions as a consequence of Iran's entirely unjustified actions which violate our country's legitimate interests in the Persian Gulf region.

This move by the Soviet Union has been an important part of its efforts to normalize the situation in the Persian Gulf region. I recall that a high-ranking USSR Foreign Ministry representative recently visited Baghdad and Tehran, where strenuous efforts aimed at stopping the Iran-Iraq war were made. These efforts have been continued in Moscow, where meetings with an Iranian delegation have taken place. The Soviet position in the UN Security Council is extremely positive; an important resolution is now being prepared which orders the warring sides to cease fire and pull back their forces to the internationally recognized borders of Iran and Iraq. It is asserted that in the event of one side (they usually indicate Iran!) not responding to the Council's appeal, sanctions will be brought against it. Possibly, the introduction of an embargo on arms deliveries. If such a resolution is adopted then the situation in the Persian Gulf zone can begin to change for the better.

This is why I am returning the reader's attention to these, in my opinion, most important events. I am convinced that it is time to recall the Soviet Union's legitimate interests in the Persian Gulf zone. It is not at all our aim to obtain there "our share" of power over the oil deposits or some other privileges. The Soviet Union is above all keen to establish peace in a region which is in direct proximity to its southern borders.

By the way, there are U.S. and British naval vessels in the waters of the Persian Gulf. When in June this year the possibility arose of the appearance of Soviet warships there, things almost reached the point of positive hysteria. W. Safire wrote in THE NEW YORK TIMES: "This would not simply be bad, this would be a staggering retreat in state policy. Over a period of many years the Soviet Union has been sustaining great losses in Afghanistan in its desire to penetrate southward to the Indian Ocean, it is trying to intimidate Pakistan and Turkey; it is looking for a way to infiltrate the Iranian hierarchy, and all unsuccessfully."

Let us investigate. Enough has been said of the reasons for our presence in Afghanistan. There is, I believe, no point in repeating them.

Talks on settling the Afghan problem are being conducted with Pakistan. Depending on their outcome it is intended to continue the withdrawal of Soviet troops from Afghanistan which has already begun. So where is the "Soviet threat" to Pakistan? Soviet-Turkish relations are, as they say, developing for the better. Why should we be a threat to Turkey? Our representative in Tehran held difficult talks on stopping the Iran-Iraq war, yet the USSR is accused of looking for a way to "infiltrate the Iranian hierarchy." As we see, Safire's claims in no way tally with the military and political realities in the Near and Middle East. They are aimed above all at substantiating the denial of our legitimate interests in this vast region. The fact that the Soviet Union has begun to defend them more resolutely than before is not at all proof of our "aggressive" intentions. Such intentions are not part of our nature. It was the Soviet Union which proposed the withdrawal of all countries' warships from the waters of the Persian Gulf. The United States and Britain are still silent.

It is noteworthy that the entry of Soviet warships into Persian Gulf waters has led neither to an exacerbation of the crisis situation in the region nor to the exacerbation of U.S.-Soviet relations. But then the U.S.-Iranian duel -- we are referring to the expansion of the U.S. military presence both in the Gulf and adjacent regions -- is, on the contrary, adding fuel to the fire. Today, 22 July, a Kuwaiti tanker may appear there under the U.S. flag. The Iranians are threatening to attack it on the pretext that Kuwait is allegedly helping Iraq. As a result something irreversible may begin.

France has broken off all relations with Iran. In response Tehran has arrested all the remaining French diplomats on a charge of espionage. An "Islamic court" awaits them. Pro-Iranian organizations in Lebanon have immediately joined in the fueling of passions. One of them announced that it will execute two French hostages abducted by it. Apparently, the French authorities will take retaliatory measures. All this is reminiscent of the deliberate creation of a "casus belli" for a declaration of war. Who will be the first to do this? Will a Franco-Iranian war be added to the U.S.-Iranian war? Aren't there too many wars in the Near and Middle East? So, the efforts to halt the Iran-Iraq war acquire great significance in such a tense situaton.

U.S. GULF MOVES SHOW 'LACK OF COMMON SENSE'

PM241221 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 24 Jul 87 First Edition p 3

[Observer Manki Ponomarev article under the rubric "International Observer Replies to a Reader": "At a Dangerous Point"; first two paragraphs are editorial introduction]

[Text] In the past few days there has been an increase in the number of letters in the editors' mailbag devoted to events in the Persian Gulf region. Here, for example, is what Reserve Officer N. Pastukhov writes from Saransk:

"I have been alarmed to read reports connected with the Iran-Iraq armed conflict and what is happening in the Persian Gulf. This is what I cannot understand: On the one hand, the United States declares its desire for a peaceful settlement of the conflict in that region while, on the other, it is extending its military presence there and working to further exacerbate the situation. How does this come about?"

Indeed, Comrade Pastukhov, it is a strange picture. There is a certain "discrepancy" in U.S. policy and the practical actions with regard to the Iran-Iraq conflict. The duplicity of Washington's approach to the events in that region is obvious. Sometimes it reaches absurd proportions.

On the one hand, in fact, the United States voted in the UN Security Council for a resolution requiring Iran and Iraq immediately to cease hostilities and withdraw all troops to internationally recognized borders — which is to serve as the first step on the way to talks between the conflicting sides. Good preconditions have taken shape in this direction for joint actions on the part of the USSR and the United States. It is possible to rate among the positive aspects the well-known White House statement that "the United States will spare no effort in support" of a settlement of the Iran-Iraq conflict and "urges all UN members to subscribe to this effort and use all their influence on the belligerents in order to end the tragic war."

Everything seems clear. The stand taken by Washington is realistic and may be evaluated as positive. But that is on the one hand. On the other, it is perfectly obvious that the U.S. Administration's actions are of a clearly provocative nature. It is taking more and more new steps to further exacerbate tension in the Persian Gulf region and is working to ensure that other countries are also drawn into the Iran-Iraq armed conflict, while the conflict itself becomes the seat of a major military conflagration. Britain's MORNING STAR writes: "A U.S. military flotilla is on its way to participate in the war in the Persian Gulf region... In this situaiton Washington's professed support for the UN cease-fire call looks like one more act of bellicose cynicism by the President and the administration, whose policy appears totally devoid of common sense and the most elementary decencies."

Yes, this is so. The facts attest to it. The United States is continuing to extend its military presence in the Persian Gulf region. The NEW YORK TIMES reports that three cruisers, four frigates, a destroyer, and a command ship are already concentrated in the Gulf itself. And the aircraft carrier "Constellation" is cruising not far away, in the Arabian Sea, and is soon to be joined by a group of ships headed by the battleship "Missouri."

But not only are U.S. warships in the Persian Gulf region. They have already begun escorting Kuwaiti tankers flying the American flag. The ships' captains have received orders according to which it is their duty to "down any aircraft which comes within a distance of 50 miles and continues to approach in a threatening manner" and to "keep the sea clear within a radius of approximately 15 miles." Need it be said what grave consequences could follow orders of this kind?

But that is not enough. The United States has not only begun escorting tankers and other ships but is preparing to make first strikes against Iranian military targets. Pentagon chief C. Weinberger himself said this a few days ago. True, he did try to cloud the issue by declaring that no one is "talking about preemptive strikes. It is a question of responding to a manifestation of hostile intentions." However, he at once refuted himself. "It is important, however, to realize that we will not wait until we are, in fact, attacked." He who has ears, let him hear, as the saying goes.

Just so. It is not yet a year since the United States itself supplied weapons to Iran within the framework of the operation now named "Irangate." But it is now threatening it with preemptive strikes based on the tactic formulated at the time of the attacks on Grenada and Libya. The CHICAGO TRIBUNE has, in fact, written: "The United States is seeking a pretext for the same kind of strike against Iran as it inflicted earlier on Libya."

But what of Iran? The unrestrained fanaticism of the Iranian fundamentalists does not contribute to normalizing the situation: As is known, Iran rejected the UN Security Council resolution. Statements are being disseminated to the effect that, if Washington enters the war in the Persian Gulf, the Iranian Army will sink U.S. ships, seize U.S. military bases, and take U.S. servicemen prisoner. "Shore-to-ship" missiles are being sited on the shore of the Strait of Hormuz, which links the Persian Gulf with the Arabian Sea. A "sea wing" of the "Guards of the Islamic Revolution" organization has been created. Its subunits are equipped with light weapons and fast launches and are based on islands in the Persian Gulf. Reports have appeared that thousands of members of kamikaze suicide squads ready to wage a partisan war at sea are being trained in Iran.

Of course, all this is exacerbating an already complex and tense situation. Under these conditions the lack of common sense in those who direct U.S. policy is really striking. I mean precisely common sense, because this policy undoubtedly has its own neoglobalist, imperial sense. For, by increasing its military presence in the Persian Gulf region and not renouncing the use of military force there, the U.S. Administration intends to strengthen still further its positions in that strategically important region located close to USSR borders, which to a considerable degree meets the oil needs of Western countries. It intends to place the littoral Arab states under its military "umbrella" and to assert American hegemony in the region under the guise of protecting them from an external threat. Finally, it would not be averse to "taking revenge" on the Iranian regime for the failure of "Irangate" and for its anti-American position.

All this is served up in the guise of deliverance from... the "Soviet threat" supposedly hanging over the Persian Gulf. Even Tehran has been critical of such fabrications. With regard to Washington's allegations that the USSR represents a threat to Iran Prime Minister Musavi declared that Washington is always seeking an excuse to justify its military presence in the region.

But this policy, which has already brought the situation in the region to a dangerous point, is provoking ever greater resistance. The administration's actions do not meet with support even among U.S. congressmen. These actions are condemned by virtually the entire world public. And so it is having to maneuver. It is having to elaborate alternative versions of its policy. Hence its duplicity assurances of its desire for a peaceful settlement of the conflict, joint actions with other states within the framework of the UN Security Council, and... increasing military activeness.

As for the Soviet Union, the USSR advocates a real settlement of the situation in the region. It is necessary, above all, to extinguish the Iran-Iraq armed conflict -- in which the UN Security Council must play a considerable role. Not a policy of force but a policy of real constructive action, a policy founded on the highest interests of preserving peace and effectively strengthening international security -- this, Comrade Pastuikhov, is what can and must remove tension in the situation around the Persian Gulf.

CPSU CENTRAL COMMITTEE GREETS MOROCCAN PARTY

PM230809 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 17 Jul 87 Second Edition p 1

[Undated greetings message from CPSU Central Committee to Fourth Moroccan Party of Progress and Socialism Congress]

[Text] To the Fourth Moroccan Party of Progress and Socialism Congress.

The CPSU Central Committee sends ardent greetings to the Fourth Party of Progress and Socialism (PPS) Congress delegates and wishes them success in their work.

Your party has assembled for its congress, enriched by its long experience of struggling for national independence, democracy, and the vital interests of the working class and all Moroccan working people. The PPS actively works for cooperation between patriotic and democratic forces in the interests of resolving the problems facing Morocco, implementing progressive socioeconomic transformations, and pursuing a consistently peace-loving, independent foreign policy.

The PPS is now a recognized national force and a prominent detachment in the anti-imperialist Arab movement. Together with other patriots it is opposed to U.S. militarist circles' neoglobalist policy and to imperialism's expansionist plans in northwest Africa, the Mediterranean, and the Near East. One aspect of this policy is to inflame inter-Arab contradictions. In these conditions, Arab unity and solidarity become particularly important.

A broad coalition of antiwar forces anxious to prevent a thermonuclear catastrophe and ensure man's survival is taking shape in the world today. An important role in the achievement of these aims is played by communist and workers parties. The CPSU values PPS support for the Soviet initiatives aimed at building a nonnuclear, nonviolent world, creating a comprehensive international security system, and achieving disarmament for the sake of development. The USSR's peace-loving foreign policy is organically linked with the CPSU course and aimed at fully revealing socialism's potential and advantages and accelerating the social and spiritual progress of Soviet society.

We note with satisfaction our parties' common desire to strengthen the fraternal relations that exist between them and develop mutually advantageous Soviet-Moroccan cooperation.

We wish the PPS future success in its activity for the good of the Moroccan people and in its struggle for peace, democracy, and social progress.

Long live friendship between the CPSU and the PPS and between the Soviet and Moroccan peoples!

Long live peace and socialism!

The CPSU Central Committee.

GORBACHEV SENDS MESSAGE TO MOROCCO'S 'ALI YATA

PM271251 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 27 Jul 87 Second Edition p 1

[Text] To Comrade 'Ali Yata, secretary general of the Moroccan Party of Progress and Socialism [PPS].

Dear Comrade 'Ali Yata, accept heartfelt congratulations on your reelection to the post of secretary general of Morocco's PPS.

I wish you and all members of the PPS success in the struggle for the fundamental interests of the Moroccan people and for peace, democracy, and social progress.

With comradely greetings,

M. Gorbachev

VOSS RECEIVES EGYPTIAN AAPSO DELEGATION

PM271441 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 21 Jul 87 Morning Edition p 4

[TASS report: "Conversation"]

[Text] On 20 July A.E. Voss, chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Soviet of Nationalities, met with a delegation from Egypt's AAPSO committee headed by its chairman, A. Hamrush. It is in our country at the invitation of the Soviet Committee for Solidarity with Asian and African Countries.

In a friendly conversation emphasis was placed on the importance of the further development of Soviet-Egyptian relations and the activation of the public in the states of the Asian and African Continents in the struggle against the threat of nuclear war and for the settlement of regional conflicts, including that in the Near East, by political means.

The visitors were told of the profound transformations in the life of Soviet society, and it was noted that they are of great significance for strengthening bilateral links and intensifying the influence of the forces of peace and progress worldwide.

Egyptian Ambassador to the USSR S. Basyuni was present at the conversation.

SUPREME SOVIET DELEGATION ENDS VISIT TO ZAIRE

LD232205 Moscow TASS in English 2047 GMT 23 Jul 87

[Text] Brazzaville July 23 TASS -- At the invitation of Zaire's legislative council, a delegation of the USSR Supreme Soviet led by Vice President of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet Aleksandr Mokanu stayed in the Republic of Zaire on an official visit on July 14-22.

The delegation was received by first Deputy Chairman of the Permanent Bureau of the Central Committee of the Revolutionary Popular Movement Mpinga Kassenda, First State Commissioner (Prime Minister) Mabi Mulumna, State Commissioner for Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation Ekila Liyonda. Talks were held with the speaker of the Legislative Council Kasonga Mukunji.

A joint statement for the press was issued on the results of the visit. It pointed out that the deputies of the USSR Supreme Soviet told about an ongoing drive for radical reform in the Soviet Union. The Soviet striving to ensure a lasting peace in the world as the most important condition for people's creative labour was stressed.

The delegation informed Zairean colleagues of Soviet major initiatives aimed at liberating mankind from nuclear and other types of weapons of mass destruction until the end of the century.

Both delegations favoured joint efforts by peace-loving countries to improve the political climate in the world, the political settlement of conflicts, the attainment of real progress in disarmament, primarily nuclear one, a non-nuclear world and an all-embracing system of international security.

The sides expressed their concern over the explosive situation in southern Africa. They pledged support for the struggle of peoples in the south of the continent for the freedom of Namibia and eliminating apartheid in South Africa and expressed solidarity with "Front-Line" states.

The USSR Supreme Soviet delegation left for home today.

GROMYKO, DEMICHEV RECEIVE MALAGASY DELEGATION

PM271443 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 23 Jul 87 Second Edition p 3

[TASS report: "Meeting in the Kremlin"]

[Text] A.A. Gromyko, CPSU Central Committee Politburo member and USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium chairman, received a Malagasy Popular National Assembly delegation in the Kremlin 22 July. The delegation is headed by Lucien Xavier Michel Andrianarahinjaka, president of the Assembly, member of the Politburo of the ruling Vanguard of the Malagasy Revolution (AREMA) party, and president of the "Madagascar-USSR" Friendship Society. This eminent statesman and public figure of Madagascar is also known in his own country as a prominent philologist — he is a member of the Malagasy Academy of Sciences.

Bilateral relations as well as key problems of the international situation were examined during an exchange of opinions in an atmosphere of friendship and mutual understanding.

"Soviet-Malagasy ties are developing dynamically," A.A. Gromyko pointed out. "And the declaration on the principles of friendly relations between the two countries, signed in 1986, is called upon to promote this. The Soviet Union advocates that our two countries' cooperation, embracing very different spheres, be implemented in all directions.

Confidence was expressed that the two countries' parliamentarians will also make their contribution to the cause of strengthening friendship and expanding contacts between the peoples of the Soviet Union and Madagascar.

A.A. Gromyko told the Malagasy parliamentarians how revolutionary transformations are being implemented in the Soviet Union, how restructuring is taking place in the economy and in the social sphere, and what measures are being taken for increasingly broad democratization. It was emphasized that restructuring and the acceleration of the development of Soviet society are the direct continuation of the cause of Great October, whose 70th anniversary the Soviet people are confidently approaching. As M.S. Gorbachev, CPSU Central Committee general secretary, pointed out, we take rightful pride in our history and look confidently to the future.

The chief aim now is to reveal in full the potential of socialism and the boundless opportunities for creativity by the masses. The decisions of the CPSU Central Committee June Plenum and the subsequent Seventh USSR Supreme Soviet Session convince us that the Soviet people have very earnestly set about accomplishing the impressive tasks set by the party.

The USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium chairman drew the Malagasy guests' attention to the large-scale Soviet peace initiatives. They are aimed at ensuring nuclear disarmament, creating a comprehensive system of international security, and arranging mutually advantageous cooperation in an atmosphere of trust among all states, which must be created.

"In our opinion," A.A. Gromyko remarked, "no state in the world -- neither large nor small -- can be aloof from the struggle against the nuclear threat. This is a matter of life or death for all mankind. We do not have the right to present the next century with a terrible gift in the form of mountains of nuclear weapons."

The Soviet side emphasized the significance of the Nonaligned Movement in international affairs and of its contribution to the struggle against imperialism. States such as the Democratic Republic of Madagascar take an active part in this struggle. And the Soviet Union greatly values this.

During a discussion of regional problems A.A. Gromyko voiced concern at the continuing conflicts on the African Continent. There, as in other parts of the world, imperialist powers use such conflicts to interfere in the internal affairs of independent states. It is the principled position of the Soviet Union to eliminate tension where conflicts have been created by means of political solutions on the just basis of respect for universally recognized international norms.

Touching on the situation in southern Africa, A.A. Gromyko said that, together with the racists of the RSA, certain imperialist circles which support the apartheid regime in South Africa in every possible way also bear responsiblity for the dangerous situation which has taken shape there.

"It takes only 1 hour to fly from Madagascar to South Africa," the Malagasy guest remarked. "It is quite close, and so we also consider ourselves a Frontline state struggling against the apartheid regime -- that den of reaction on the continent."

The situation in the Indian Ocean region was examined in detail during the talks. The Soviet side emphasized that the USSR consistently advocates turning the Indian Ocean into a zone of peace and holding an international conference on this problem as soon as possible.

The Malagasy parliamentary delegation showed great interest in the restructuring process taking place in the Soviet Union and came out unambiguously in support of the USSR's constructive foreign policy and the Soviet peace initiatives aimed at creating a nuclear-free and nonviolent world.

Both sides confirmed their desire to develop Soviet-Malagasy relations in all spheres and to give a new boost to ties between the CPSU and AREMA and between the USSR Supreme Soviet and the Malagasy Popular National Assembly.

Present at the talks were P.N. Demichev, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and first deputy chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, and Rabe Simon Raboala, Malagasy ambassador to the USSR.

Tolkunov Receives Delegation

LD231732 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1210 GMT 23 Jul 87

[Text] Moscow, 23 Jul (TASS) -- Lev Tolkunov, chairman of the Council of the Union of the USSR Supreme Soviet, stated: Great significance is attached in Moscow to the visit by the Malagasy parliamentarians, the content of which goes beyond the framework of purely parliamentary ties. He met today with a delegation of the People's National Assembly of Madagascar. Lucien Michel Andrianarahinjaka, head of the Malagasy delegation and president of the People's National Assembly of the Democratic Republic of Madagascar, noted with satisfaction that Malagasy-Soviet relations are characterized by forward development, the strengthening of ties in many directions, including parliamentary contacts. Madagascar supports Soviet peace initiatives and comes out for the consolidation of international security. The sides exchanged concrete experience in the development of agriculture and economic ties between the two countries, and gave great attention to the problems of bringing up young people.

SHEVARDNADZE, CSSR ENVOY DISCUSS ARMS ISSUE

PM271451 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 25 Jul 87 Second Edition p 4

[TASS report under the general heading: "Ambassadors Received"]

[Text] E.A. Shevardnadze, CPSU Central Committee Politburo member and USSR foreign minister, received J. Rehorek, CSSR ambassador to the USSR, 24 July at the latter's request.

During the talk, which was held in an atmosphere of cordiality and complete mutual understanding, questions of the further deepening of Soviet-Czechoslovak cooperation and the introduction of new progressive forms of economic collaboration were discussed.

During the discussion of the situation in Europe both sides expressed profound concern at the position adopted by the United States and the FRG with regard to Pershing-1A missiles. It was stressed that the intention to retain the Europe U.S. nuclear warheads intended for Pershing-1A missiles runs fundamentally counter to the task of eliminating medium-range and operational and tactical missiles -- a task which, judging by its statements, the U.S. side shares.

Opinions were also exchanged on other urgent international problems. The Czechoslovak side expressed complete support for the new Soviet foreign policy initiatives.

DOBRYNIN, MEDVEDEV MEET WITH GDR'S AXEN 27 JULY

LD272126 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1700 GMT 27 Jul 87

[From the "Vremya" newscast]

[Text] Axen, Politburo member and secretary of the SED Central Committee, was in Moscow on 27 July on a working visit at the invitation of the CPSU Central Committee. Conversations took place between Comrade Axen and Comrades Dobrynin and Medvedev, in the course of which topical matters relating to cooperation between the two fraternal parties in European and international affairs were discussed.

The meetings passed in a warm and friendly atmosphere.

CPSU, STATE RECOGNIZE POLAND'S REBIRTH DAY

Send Jaruzelski Greetings

PM241701 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 22 Jul 87 Second Edition p 1

[USSR party and state greetings to Poland's W. Jaruzelski and Z. Messner on occasion of Polish Rebirth Day]

[Text] To Comrade Wojciech Jaruzelski, first secretary of the PZPR Central Committee and chairman of the Polish Council of State

To Comrade Zbigniew Messner, chairman of the Polish Council of Ministers

Dear Comrades!

On behalf of the CPSU Central Committee, the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, the USSR Council of Ministers, and all the Soviet people we send you and, through you, the PZPR Central Committee, the Polish Council of State, the Polish Council of Ministers, and all Polish working people cordial congratulations on your national day -- the Day of Poland's Rebirth.

July 1944 is imprinted forever in our peoples' memories as the beginning of Poland's liberation from the fascist invaders and the birth of a new, democratic worker-peasant state. Today we pay tribute to the courage of our comrades-in-arms -- members of the Polish Forces and other Polish patriots -- displayed in those terrible years when our brotherhood-in-arms was first forged in joint struggle and the inviolable alliance between our peoples took shape.

Poland's rebirth within just, secure borders, its postwar restoration, and its advance along the path of progress are indissolubly connected with socialism. Under the leadership of the PZPR, Polish working people have achieved indisputable success in their country's socioeconomic and cultural development.

Now, resolving the tasks in the next stage of socialist building, the PZPR is consistently pursuing a policy aimed at improving the efficiency of economic management and is striving to accelerate progress in Poland's economic, social, and cultural development. Polish Communists, who firmly defend the interests of their people and socialism and struggle for a strong, free, socialist Poland, now have greater authority. The Polish People's Republic rightfully holds a worthy place in the socialist community and the world as a whole.

Thanks to the efforts of the CPSU and the PZPR and the will of our peoples, Soviet-Polish unity and collaboration have reached a qualitatively new state. A creative approach characterizes the implementation of extensive programs for bilateral cooperation in all spheres of life. The course aimed at comprehensively developing economic integration and building direct links between enterprises, research organizations, and labor collectives is in line with the greater demands associated with the present stage of USSR-Polish relations.

International solidarity between the Soviet and Polish working people is graphically demonstrated by their broad exchange of experience in socialist building. The declaration on Soviet-Polish cooperation in ideology, science, and culture signed in April this year is a major step in our peoples' spiritual contact. The implementation of the ides it contains will contribute to the successful resolution of the tasks put forward by the 27th CPSU Congress and the 10th PZPR Congress to bring about the further rapprochement of our countries and peoples.

The peaceful strategy of the socialist countries, further developed in the documents of the Warsaw Pact Political Consultative Committee's Berlin conference, single-mindedly paves the way to a nuclear-free, nonviolent world. The Polish People's Republic plays an active role in the development and implementation of this strategy together with the other allied countries. Poland's recent proposal of a plan for a phased arms reduction and confidence-building measures in Europe, which is an example of the new political thinking, has met with a positive response from the world public and is actively supported by the Soviet Union.

We wish you, dear comrades, Polish Communists, and all the fraternal Polish people success in fulfilling the tasks facing your country in the process of renewing and democratizing your society and consolidating socialism in Poland.

May our inviolable Soviet-Polish friendship, close collaboration between the CPSU and the PZPR, and all-around cooperation between the USSR and Poland grow stronger and be enriched with new substance!

CPSU Central Committee USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium USSR Council of Ministers

Speakers Address Ceremony

PM271105 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 22 Jul 87 Second Edition p 4

[TASS report: "Polish People's Holiday"]

[Text] Relations of fraternity and multifaceted cooperation are constantly developing between the USSR and Poland. This was stressed 21 June at a ceremonial meeting of repesentatives of the working people of Moscow, dedicated to the 43d anniversary of Poland's rebirth.

A.N. Aksenov, chairman of the Central Board of the Soviet-Polish Friendship Society and chairman of te USSR State Committee for Television and Radio Broadcasting; V.V. Denev, metalworker at the Moscow "Kalibr" Instrument Factory; and other speakers pointed out that socialism has provided Poland with genuine independence and has guaranteed the inviolability of its traditions.

H. Bednarski, head of the Polish-Soviet Friendship Society delegation, chairman of its main board, and secretary of the PZPR Central Committee, stated that the indissoluble Polish-Soviet alliance, reinforced by the Treaty on Friendship, Cooperation, and Mutual Assistance Between Poland and the USSR and deepened by the Declaration on Polish-Soviet Cooperation in Ideology, Science, and Culture, has united the two fraternal peoples forever.

B. Yazkuliyev, deputy chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium; A.K. Antonov, deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers; the leaders of a number of ministries and departments; representatives of party, soviet, and public organizations; and W. Natorf, Polish ambassador to the USSR took part in the meeting.

On the same day, W. Natorf organized a reception to mark the noteworthy anniversary.

At the reception were B. Yazkuliyev, A.K. Antonov, and other officials. The delegation from the Polish-Soviet Friendship Society headed by H. Bednarski also attended.

PRAVDA REPORTS ON PPR REFORM, JOINT COOPERATION

PM271045 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 22 Jul 87 Second Edition p 4

[O. Losoto dispatch under rubric: "Today Is the Day of Poland's Rebirth": "Shore of the Fatherland"]

[Excerpt] Warsaw, July -- [Passage omitted] One year has elapsed since the 10th PZPR Congress, which was an important landmark in the history of socialist Poland. [paragraph continues]

The program for the country's accelerated socioeconomic development outlined there is being successfully fulfilled. Today Poland is mobilizing forces for the next spurt. An extensive search is under way for effective economic mechanisms. Next in line is the introduction of the second stage of economic reform, discussed animatedly in the community. The PZPR Central Committee Politburo, after analyzing the preparation for this stage, noted that economic reform has already led to considerable progress. Despite the difficulties, which still exist, between 1982 and 1987 the economy has reached a higher level of industrial production, export growth, and labor productivity than in 1978. Furthermore, one must consider the fact that at that time imports from capitalist countries decreased by 40 percent and labor time available was reduced by 20 percent. Nor must one forget the fact that discriminatory measures were practiced against Poland by the United States and its allies.

Poland is counting primarily on scientific and technical progress. Self-management is developing. The processes of democratization are deepening. National economic structures are being restructured. Of course, there are also many difficulties. One of the most acute problems is housing. Equilibrium has not been achieved on the domestic market. Inflation processes are occurring. Prices are rising.

Solving these problems requires not only time but also innovative approaches, the restructuring of habitual, established mechanisms of management and organization, the search for effective ways, but mainly new political and economic thinking and the use of the broad potential and large reserves invested in socialism.

Speaking about Poland, one cannot help noting the essential part of its life that is the deepening cooperation between Poland and the fraternal countries.

"Collaboration with Soviet collectives," Zygmunt Pasek, director of the "Mera-blonie" Precision Machinery Plant near Warsaw told us, "is of specific and important assistance. We obtain from the Soviet Union necessary elements and materials. A large part of our output, above all computer printers, is exported, including to the USSR."

The "Mera-blonie" Factory and Orel's Rudnev Factory concluded an agreement on direct sharing in the production of computer assemblies for the years 1987-1990. This year reciprocal deliveries will begin on a shared basis. While they will total R4 million in 1987, by 1990 they will reach R240 million.

New forms of fraternal cooperation -- direct links between labor collectives, joint enterprises, the development of border exchange and trade, and the USSR's participation in completing the construction of 11 Polish industrial enterprises -- are a clear illustration of the qualitative changes in Soviet-Polish cooperation.

Among the incomplete buidings was a large plant manufacturing joinery articles located among the forests of Poland's northern Tuchola. Its construction was begun 12 years ago. But during the 1980 crisis work was stopped. Now the site has once again come to life. Soviet credit for its completion will make it possible to obtain the necessary machinery and equipment and train the specialists. After it has become operational, the factory in the Tuchola will be able to produce annually 870,000 square meters of wooden window fitments, 1.3 million square meters of foil [folgovyye] doors, and 160,000 square meters of wooden doors.

There are many such examples. Soviet-Polish cooperation is embracing various spheres. Our countries are also actively cooperating in the international arena in the struggle for a peaceful future for mankind and for a nuclear-free world. People's Poland is making a weighty contribution to supporting Soviet peace initiatives and for the process of detente, disarmament, and security in Europe. The new Polish plan for reducing armaments and deepening trust in central Europe has been met with keen interest. [passage omitted]

IZVESTIYA CITES MTI ON HUNGARIAN PRICE RISES

PM271507 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 21 Jul 87 Morning Edition p 4

[TASS report: "Hungary: MTI Agency Report"]

[Text] Budapest, 20 Jul -- MTI reports that the Hungarian Council of Ministers has decided on an increase in the prices of certain consumer goods and services as of 20 July and also on measures to supplement people's incomes.

By and large flour and bakery products will be 19 percent higher and coal, coke, wood, gas, and other energy sources used by consumers will be 20 percent higher. The cost of central heating will rise by 22 percent and electricity by 18 percent on average. Gasoline and diesel fuel will also be higher. Tobacco products will increase in price by 20 percent.

Having consulted with the All-Hungarian Council of Trade Unions, the Hungarian Council of Ministers adopted a decision on pension supplements and other benefits. It was deemed necessary to increase the pensions of people over 70 and of the severely disabled annually in line with the planned rise in the level of consumer prices. Child allowances are to rise and students at higher and secondary specialized educational establishments will get bigger grants. It has been decided to increase local councils' social assistance funds and funds for child education assistance.

The announcement stresses that the government's decision has been made in the interests of improving the economic balance, reducing domestic consumption, and also reducing the state budget deficit and consumer price subsidies.

IZVESTIYA VIEWS STRENGTHENING OF PARIS-BONN AXIS

PM241601 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 22 Jul 87 Morning Edition p 5

[Own correspondent Yu. Kovalenko report: "Brigade, Axis, and Eurodefense"]

[Text] Standing in a tank hatch, French and West German soldiers are embracing. The first says: "Why didn't we think of this before! Together we could have held Indochina and Algeria." The other adds: "...and Alsace and Lotharingia!" That was how the newspaper LIBERATION caricatured the Paris and Bonn decision to create a united military brigade.

Hardly had the news been announced in the two capitals than practical steps followed. A group of French military men arrived in West Germany to hold talks with their Bundeswehr colleagues. They will have to determine the numerical strength of the brigade, its nature, tasks, and deployment area, and, finally, the language in which orders will be given. Observers are pointing out that yet another problem is linked with the fact that the FRG Army depends on the U.S. NATO command. As for the French Armed Forces, they are formally not under NATO jursidiction and have their own nuclear weapons -- which, incidentally, in no way prevents them from participating in joint maneuvers and cooperating with the NATO armies. However, all these difficulties exist more in theory than in practice.

The press called the decision to set up a Franco-West German unit a "historic event" and a "promising symbol." "Who could have predicted in 1945," the newspaper LE QUOTIDIEN DE PARIS wrote with emotion, "that West Germany would become our military ally and that French and West German soldiers would rub shoulders in the same subunits."

But things are not restricted to soldiers fraternizing. For the two countries' politicians and military men the brigade will be an experimental laboratory, a test bed where various ideas linked with the building of a "West European defense system" can be streamlined.

The creation of a joint military subunit is an important event in further stepping up military cooperation between the two countries. The starting point for the "new stage" in Franco-West German relations was 22 January 1963, when a treaty on cooperation between the two countries was signed at the Elysee Palace in Paris. France's subsequent departure from the NATO military organization somewhat stalled the process. But in the early eighties the military articles of the treaty began to be stepped up, as part of Paris' general rapprochement with Bonn in all areas.

Next January both countries intend to widely mark the anniversary of the Elysee Treaty. There have been calls to conclude a new agreement, which would bring Paris and Bonn even closer together, on the anniversary date. Despite occasional differences on certain questions, France and the FRG are striving to adopt united positions on various international problems. The Soviet proposal on "Euromissiles" is a recent example of that. Despite the contradictions existing within the two countries' ruling coalitions, Paris and Bonn have coordinated their positions quite successfully.

The two countries are the main trailblazers for the political integration of West Europe. They attach particular importance to the "Single European Act" adopted by the EEC, which envisages the creation of a single European market by 1992. It is political integration, the two capitals are stressing, that must completely open up the way to military integration.

One of the central points in increased Franco-West German cooperation is the question of Paris' nuclear forces. More and more politicians in the two countries are militating for the expansion of the French concept of nuclear deterrence and the utilization of French nuclear weapons to defend the FRG. Without this, in their opinion, it will be impossible to achieve "real progress." The first concrete steps in this direction were taken in January 1986, when the French president and the FRG chancellor agreed that Paris would consult Bonn on the use of nuclear weapons. Former French President V. Giscard d'Estaing, who is now chairman of the National Assembly's Foreign Affairs Commission, has recently advanced the idea of siting French nuclear weapons on FRG territory following the conclusion of a treaty on the elimination of "Euromissiles."

"The U.S. guarantee is irreplaceable for us," H. Kohl repeats, stressing the importance of special links with Washington. Bonn religiously observes its transatlantic partner's interests, constantly recalling that its rapprochement with Paris does not run counter to NATO's plans. But there is hope in the NATO alliance that increased cooperation with West Germany will help to return France to the NATO military organization. There is increased pressure on both sides of the Rhine from those who insist on the FRG being given access to nuclear weapons.

Solidarity with Bonn on defense questions is today proclaimed a priority. To this end France must review the concept of defense and develop a "new global strategic system" which would also extend to West Germany. Some figures insist that the doctrine of the "battle for forward positions" be adopted as official policy. Others such as ex-Minister Jean-Francois Deniau, for instance, demand that it be officially announced that "security of French territory is indissolubly linked with the security of FRG territory." He is echoed by L. Fabius, former French prime minister in the Socialist government, who proposed that the defense of the FRG be seen as the defense of "French vital interests," and even put forward the idea of setting up a "Franco-West German confederation."

It must be said that the thesis of the indivisibility of French and FRG defense and their interrelation had long been floating around in works by local theoreticians and political scientists. Thus, in his book "The Future War" P. Lelouche, deputy director of the French Institute of International Relations, wrote that France should not leave West Germany isolated under any circumstances (referring to the notorious "Soviet threat"). It is time, P. Lelouche states, to reject the sacred taboo and transfer the French Army from the banks of the Rhine to the banks of the Elbe, that is, to the GDR border. He believes that French defense should start at the Elbe.

Different projects concern the two countries' conventional armed forces and arms. Probably the "boldest" was the proposal by former FRG chancellor H. Schmidt to fully integrate all French and FRG Armed Forces under French command. Cooperation has been organized between the two countries' general staffs, and officers are exchanged. In the words of French Foreign Minister J.B. Raimond, in 10 years' time all West German Army officers will have "passed through" the French Army and vice versa.

Joint arms production is one of the main avenues of bilateral cooperation. The French firms Dassault-Breguet and Aerospatiale, together with the West German firms Messerschmitt-Boelkow-Blohm and Dornier, produce antitank missiles and air defense systems. Preparations are under way — although not without difficulties — for the production of a military helicopter. In all there are several dozen military projects whose feature is that they are open for participation by other NATO countries. On the whole, such cooperation is seen as a basis for creating an extensive West European market in the latest weapons systems to serve the NATO countries.

We recall that France proposed removing the last restrictions on the FRG in the sphere of the production of offensive arms -- restrictions which existed within the framework of the Western European Union [WEU] military-political grouping uniting Britain, Belgium, the Netherlands, Italy, Luxembourg, France, and the FRG. The military aspects of the Paris-Bonn axis can be clearly seen in the WEU. Both countries were behind the WEU's revival and many observers see it not only as a European support for NATO but as the prototype of a new "European defense community," plans for the creation of which were rejected more than 30 years ago by the French National Assembly.

Today Paris and Bonn attach prime importance to the creation of a "Eurodefense system." Therein lies one of the main aims of increased military cooperation between France and the FRG. "Eurodefense," as the WEU strategists see it, should oppose Soviet peace initiatives aimed at eliminating nuclear weapons; it would fill the vacuum which might emerge after the elimination of U.S. and Soviet missiles in Europe. The main thing is not to allow nuclear weapons to be removed, since, to use the logic of French Defense Minister A. Giraud, "disarmament poses a threat to West Europe." As the prospect of eliminating missiles in Europe becomes more realistic, those circles which want to block the disarmament process are acting more vigorously.

There can be no common Franco-West German defense system without a common foreign policy, without a unified analysis of the international situation, without unified goals, LE MONDE wrote the other day. People on the banks of the Seine fear the impact of Soviet peace initiatives on broad sections of the FRG population and the country's "slide into neutralism." J. Lecanuet, one of the leaders of the pro-Atlantic forces and chairman of the Union for French Democracy association, stated with alarm that the FRG could become a slave to "neutralist trends" and... "put its technology and capital at the service of the Soviets." The further militarization of the FRG and its involvement in the plans for the creation of a "Eurodefense system" are the best way of opposing this -- so people in Paris believe.

The intensification of the Paris-Bonn axis has aroused concern among many politicians and public figures. The recent proposal to set up a Franco-West German brigade was given a hostile reception by the Gaullist old guard. Is it not a question of reintegrating the French Armed Forces under U.S. command and subordinating them to U.S. strategy? asked M. Debre, General de Gaulle's former prime minister.

A recent statement by the French Communist Party Politburo contains a clear-cut analysis of plans to expand military cooperation between the two countries which are aimed at creating a European defense system under U.S. command within the NATO framework. This, the statement notes, would lead to the complete abandonment of the independent nature of French defense, the strengthening of NATO, the further fueling of the nuclear arms race, and the stoking of international tension, and, finally, would open up FRG access to nuclear weapons in contravention of all the international agreements to the contrary.

By expanding bilateral cooperation -- with emphasis on the military side -- France and the FRG are overtly staking their claim to leadership of West Europe. Both capitals believe that the Paris-Bonn double act is the locomotive which will pull all West Europe behind it. So it will, but in what direction?

PRAVDA CITES GENSCHER ON EAST-WEST RELATIONS

PM241151 Mocow PRAVDA in Russian 21 Jul 87 First Edition p 1

[TASS report: "A Historic Chance"]

[Text] Bonn, 20 Jul -- There must be no room for confrontation in East-West relations. The establishment of cooperation between them is a task on whose solution the survival of all mankind will depend.

FRG Foreign Minister H.-D. Genscher stated this in an interview given to the West German newspaper BILD AM SONNTAG. The nuclear potentials stockpiled in the world are sufficient to wipe mankind from the face of the earth and to end life on our planet for many years. East-West collaboration acquires a vital importance also in connection with the fact that the damage inflicted on the environment is boundless.

In his interview H.-D. Genscher expressed the conviction that the Soviet Union is sincerely seeking disarmament. The USSR is not just talking about the reduction of nuclear arsenals, it has taken specific steps in this sphere. "At the same time, some people here have begun to be afraid of their own proposals," the head of the Bonn foreign policy department noted. According to him, there now exists a historic chance to make headway in the relations between the two sociopolitical systems. Whether it will be used will depend to a decisive degree on the Western side, the minister emphasized.

DATES OF SPANISH COMMUNIST PARTY CONGRESS REPORTED

LD181815 Moscow TASS in English 1536 GMT 18 Jul 87

[Text] Madrid July 18 TASS -- The regular, 12th Congress of the Communist Party of Spain will be held on February 18-21, 1988. The decision to this effect was adopted by a plenary meeting of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Spain held here.

The plenary meeting unanimously endorsed report of General Secretary of the Communist Party of Spain Gerardo Iglesias devoted to questions of preparing the coming congress. The commission was set up to draft the main documents to be submitted for the discussion of the congress.

SPANISH FOREIGN MINISTRY OFFICIAL DISCUSSES ISSUES

LD241745 Moscow TASS in English 1323 GMT 24 Jul 87

[Text] Moscow July 24 TASS -- The Soviet Union and Spain held consultations on matters to be discussed by the 42nd session of the United Nations General Assembly and other international issues at the USSR Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

J.M. Cabrero, director general of the Department of International Organisations and Conferences of the Spanish Foreign Ministry, took part in the consultations.

Cabrero was received by Soviet Deputy Foreign Minister Vladimir Petrovskiy.

GROMYKO, DEMICHEV, VLASOV RECEIVE CRIMEAN TATARS

LD271742 Moscow TASS in English 1727 GMT 27 Jul 87

[Text] Moscow July 27 TASS -- The president of the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the USSR Andrey Gromyko received in the Kremlin today a group of representatives of Crimean Tatars who made the same requests that have already been reported by the Soviet press.

Andrey Gromyko informed them that a commission had been formed to study the entire set of problems raised in the appeals and statements by citizens from among Crimean Tatars. He said this commission would thoroughly study their requests and draw up relevant proposals that should form the basis of decisions. The main thing, it was stressed, is to prepare such proposals that would facilitate the adoption of just decisions in accordance with the traditions of the friendship of the peoples of the multi-nation Soviet state.

It was noted that all attempts to put pressure on bodies of state power could only impede the commission's work which would need some time to draw its conclusions.

It is not in your interests to whip up and heat up the situation, Andrey Gromyko told his interolocutors. It would be correct to create a calm atmopshere around this question.

Present at the conversation were first Vice President of the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the USSR Petr Demichev and Minister of Internal Affairs of the USSR Aleksandr Vlasov.

Tatars 'Dissatisfied'

AU272012 Paris AFP in English 2000 GMT 27 Jul 87

[Excerpts] Moscow, July 27 (AFP) -- A delegation of 21 Crimean Tatars emerged dissatisifed from nearly two-and-a-half hours of talks on Monday with Soviet President Andrey Gromyko during which they demanded the restoration of a Crimean homeland.

Some 300 Tatars agreed on Sunday to end four days of demonstrations at the gates of the Kremlin in return for a meeting with Mr Gromyko, who chairs a commission set up on July 9 to study their grievances. [passage omitted]

Mr Dhzemilyov [Tatar activist] said after the meeting with Mr Gromyko: "We are unhappy. We didn't hear what we wanted to hear."

Journalist Sabrie Seoutova, a member of the delegation, said Mr Gromyko had repeatedly said that the Tatar question was "complex" and had asked them to return to their homes.

"We received no concrete response to our grievances," she added.

According to the demonstrators, some 400,000 Tatars were deported from the Crimea, on the Black Sea, to Soviet Central Asia in 1944 under the orders of dictator Josef Stalin for allegedly collaborating with the Nazis. They claim that 100,000 died during the deportation.

19TH ALL-UNION PARTY CONFERENCE PREVIEWED

LD270901 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 0756 GMT 27 Jul 87

[Text] Moscow, 27 Jul (TASS) -- The implementation of the decisions of the 27th CPSU Congress and the main results of the first half of the current 5-year period will be analyzed at the 19th all-union party conference. This, as is known, will be held at the end of June 1988 by decision of the CPSU Central Committee June 1987 Plenum.

This decision revives one of the traditions in the party's activity, laid down by Lenin and corresponding to the democratic principles of its life. The conference participants will discuss measures toward the further democratization of the life of the party and society, the further improvement of the mechanism of forming leading party organs, and the development of glasnost and other attributes of socialist democracy.

The delegates to the 19th conference will be elected as if it were a congress, but with two minor particularities. The norm of representation -- 1 delegate for 3,780 members of the party -- is somewhat higher than it was before the last congress. This is a reflection of the growth of party ranks.

Second: The delegates will be elected, not at republican Communist Party congresses and kray and oblast conferences, but at plenums of local leading organs of the party. All-party conferences are a form of collective discussion of the problems of party work and the foreign and domestic (?policy) [passage indistinct] by congresses. However, the supreme and most sovereign organ of the CPSU is a congress, which draws up the party's general line; determines the basic of directions of the party's (?foreign and domestic) policy, strategy, and tactics; and forms (?the leading organs).

The conferences, the sixth which took place in 1912 and the seventh which took place in 1917, are regarded as being on a par with a congress from the viewpoint of their political content and organizational significance. The first conference summed up the results of the bolsheviks' struggle against the party's opportunistic wing, and the second oriented the party toward conquering power by peaceful means once power was placed in the hands of the soviets of workers and peoples deputies. The 16th conference in 1929 made its mark on history when it adopted the first 5-year plan for the development of the national economy. Changes and amendments to the party's rules were made at a number of conferences.

The last conference to have taken place -- the 18th -- was in February 1941. Its participants examined the problem of improving industrial and transport performance within the framework of strengthening the country's defenses. No conference has been staged since then.

KAZAKH CP PLENUM MAKES ORGANIZATIONAL CHANGES

LD271722 Alma-Ata Domestic Service in Russian 1400 GMT 27 Jul 87

[Text] The Ninth Plenum of the Kazakhstan Communist Party Central Committee was held on 27 July. The tasks of the republican party organization in radically restructuring the management of the economy in light of the decisions of the June 1987 Plenum of the CPSU Central Committee were submitted for examination by the plenum. The report of the Kazakhstan Central Committee Bureau on this matter was delivered by Comrade Kolbin, first secretary of the Kazakhstan Communist Party Central Committee.

Speaking in discussions on the report were the following comrades: Demidenko, first secretary of Kustanay Obkom; Tolebekov, first secretary of Chimkent Obkom; Yerpilov, first secretary of Pavlodar Obkom; Boztayev, first secretary of Semipalatinsk Obkom; (Grish), general director of the Karaganda-Ugol production association; Tatenova, tractor driver at the Krasnoflotskiy Sovkhoz, Kokchetav Oblast; Milkin, first secretary of East Kazakhstan Obkom; Durasov, USSR Minister of nonferrous metallurgy; Davletova, secretary of the Kazakhstan Communist Party Central Committee; Andreykin, engineer at the (?Kobzhon) mine, (Karatau-Ugol) production association, Dzhambul Oblast; (Siyerbayev), first secretary of Kaztalovskiy Raykom, Ural Oblast; Bashmakov, first deputy chairman of the Kazakh SSR Council of Ministers; Zhakselekov, chairman of the Kazakh SSR Trade Unions Council; (Myuller), director of Karagandinskiy Sovkhoz, North Kazakhstan Oblast, Gukasov, first deputy chairman of the Kazakh SSR Council of Ministers and chairman of the republican State Agro-Industrial Committee; and Romanov, first secretary of Alma-Ata gorkom.

An inaugural speech was delivered by Comrade Kobin, first secretary of the Kazakhstan Communist Party Central Committee. The plenum adopted a detailed resolution on the matter under discussion, which will be published in the press.

Organizational matters were examined at the plenum of the Kazakhstan Communist Party Committee. The plenum relieved Comrade Grebenyuk from his duties as member of the Kazakhstan Communist Party Central Committee Bureau in connection with his retirement on pension. The plenum relieved Comrade Rybnikov from his duties as secretary and member of the Kazakhstan Communist Party Central Committee Bureau in connection with his retirement on pension on health grounds.

The plenum elected Comrade (Urzhumov) secretary and member of the Kazakhstan Communist Party Central Committee Bureau. The plenum relieved Comrade Dodonov from his duties as chief of the Organizational Party Work Department of the Kazakhstan Communist Party Central Committee for distortion of autobiographical information. The plenum confirmed Comrade Vinogradov as chief of the Organizational Party Work Department of the Kazakhstan Communist Party Central Committee. The plenum confirmed Comrade Asambayev as chief of the Economic Department of the Kazakhstan Communist Party Central Committee. It released his from his duties as chief of the Central Committee Science and Education Institutions Department. The plenum confirmed Comrade (Yergenov) as chief of the Trade and Consumer Services Department of the Kazakhstan Communist Party Central Committee. It relieved Comrade (Manketov) from this post.

The plenum removed Comrade Kunayev from the membership of the Kazakhstan Communist Party Central Committee for serious shortcomings allowed to occur in the leadership of the republican party organization during his tenure as first secretary of the Kazakhstan Communist Party Central Committee.

Taking part in the work of the plenum was Comrade (Mishchenko), head of a sector of the Organizational Party Work Department of the CPSU Central Committee. The plenum of the Kazakhstan Communist Party Central Committee has ended its work.

SHCHERBITSKIY REPORT TO 16 JUL UKRAINIAN PARTY PLENUM

AU241544 Kiev PRAVDA UKRAINY in Russian 17 Jul 87 p 2-3

[Report by V.V. Shcherbitskiy at the Ukrainian Communist Party Central Committee Plenum on 16 July 1987: "On the Tasks of the Republic's Party Organization in Carrying Out the Decision of the June (1987) CPSU Central Committee Plenum on the Fundamental Restructuring of Economic Management" -- passages within slantlines published in boldface]

[Text] Comrades!

The party's consistent pursuit of the course of the April (1985) Central Committee Plenum and the 27th CPSU Congress for accelerating socioeconomic development is making a more and more profound impact on Soviet society as a whole.

The June (1986) CPSU Central Committee Plenum opened a new phase in our entire work. The Central Committee plenum examined questions of enormous importance, provided a profound political analysis of restructuring, pointed out its initial results, and frankly discussed difficulties and shortcomings.

/The report by Comrade M.S. Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, thoroughly validated the need for radical reform of economic management and convincingly revealed the basic guidelines and principles of its implementation./ The concept of economic reform, which reflects the party's collective thought, takes maximum account of the complicated package of interests of the individual, the collective, classes, and all nations and nationalities and is aimed at optimizing their correlation and at ensuring dynamic development and attainment of a qualitatively new state of our society.

The Central Committee plenum approved a major political document -- "Basic Provisions for Fundamental Restructuring of Economic Management." The USSR Law on the State Enterprise (Association), which, as is known, was passed by the USSR Supreme Soviet, and draft resolutions concerning restructuring the activities of central, republic, and local management organs, the planning system, and other normative acts were ratified.

The plenum decided to convene the next--the 19th-- party conference on 28 June 1988. As M.S. Gorbachev stressed in his closing speech, this will be a major political event in the life of the party and of the country. For us Communists, it will be essentially a political examination on the main subject of our life -- restructuring.

/The CPSU Central Committee Plenum demonstrated a total unity of views and assessments on all the questions discussed and confirmed that the path chosen by us to strengthen and refine socialism is the right one. A steadfast resolve to implement firmly and consistently and with even greater energy the course of acceleration and restructuring elaborated by the party was expressed./

The documents of the plenum and the Supreme Soviet session produced widespread response throughout the world -- the interest and approval of friends, and confusion and conjecture among enemies.

Fulfillment of the plenum's precepts will undoubtedly be a new major step in carrying out the decisions of the 27th CPSU Congress, will make a profound and intrinsically revolutionary impact on our society's development, and will serve the further strengthening of socialism's international positions.

It is now a question of constructive work. M.S. Gorbachev provided an exhaustive assessment of the current, initial phase of restructuring as being a difficult and very crucial one at a meeting with the leaders of mass information media and creative unions held the other day at the CPSU Central Committee.

The main thing now is to act energetically and purposefully, to search for new forms of work, and to strengthen democracy and openness. In so doing, it is of course important to really assess the situation, for many problems have accumulated everywhere, and all of them cannot be solved in a short time. There will be difficulties, perhaps even serious ones, but we must overcome them. For this purpose, it was stressed at the CPSU Central Committee Plenum, it is necessary for each party organization to act creatively, boldly, and resolutely, not to avoid urgent tasks and not to be afraid of errors. Errors are possible in every major task. No one is insured against them. But it is necessary to act confidently, to rectify the situation in a timely fashion, and to move forward literally every day.

And the /guarantee of success/ in all this work, whose volume is enormous and essence difficult, is that our party and its Central Committee have emerged as the initiators and organizers of revolutionary transformations and have assumed total responsibility for their implementation.

The /guarantee of success/ lies in the ever increasing vigor of the broad popular masses, who have met with approval and supported with their labor the program of restructuring and acceleration.

The /guarantee of success/ lies in the strengthening unity of the party and the people, the brotherhood of all nations and nationalities, and in the ever increasing contribution by each republic to the development of a single national economic complex and of the spiritual potential of the entire country.

The Initial Results of Restructuring and the Urgent Tasks to Deepen It [subhead]

Comrades! Today at the Central Committee plenum we must analyze the course of restructuring in the republic, define specific tasks, and discuss the organizational and political measures to fulfill the decisions of the June CPSU Central Committee Plenum that have been prepared by the Ukrainian Communist Party Central Committee Politburo.

If one talks about the /main sphere of our activity -- the economy -- intensive factors and the achievements of scientific-technological progress here are being utilized more fully./ Much is being done to enhance the return on fixed capital. The work front of the modernization and retooling of existing industries is expanding. The number of workplaces is decreasing on the basis of certification and streamlining, although more slowly than it should. The transfer of associations and enterprises to a multishift schedule is being carried out.

The economic impact of incorporating into the national economy the development projects of the republic's scientists is growing. Major attention is being paid to questions of saving resources, which has made possible a reduction of the energy- and metal-intensiveness of production.

Since the beginning of the current 5-year plan the growth rate of national income and labor productivity has increased as compared with the average annual rate for the 11th 5-Year Plan by a factor of 1.3, and profits -- by a factor of 1.6. The entire increase in the national income is being provided by the growth of labor productivity.

The production of agricultural output has increased.

Specific steps have been taken to strengthen the material base of the social sphere. In 1987 the growth rate of capital investments for its development are projected to be greater by a factor of 1.2 than for the republic's national economy as a whole.

However, V.V. Shcherbitskiy noted, /one cannot fail to see that significantly less was done than we could have and, the main thing, than we should have done./ In a number of sectors and at many enterprises positive trends have still not acquired a stable nature. This was particularly manifest at the beginning of this year, when the severe winter revealed serious shortcomings in the organization and management of production.

The measures taken made it possible to improve the situation somewhat in the second quarter, to achieve the planned annual growth rate in industrial production, and to ensure fulfillment of the 6-month plan according to a number of basic indicators. At the same time, many enterprises of the machine building, ferrous metallurgy, chemical, petroleum refining and petrochemical, light, and local industries still have not made up for the lag they permitted. Nearly one enterprise in four did not fulfill delivery contracts, one in six did not meet targets for labor productivity growth, and practically one in five -- for profit plans. As compared with last year, the proportion of items in the highest quality category decreased and its total volume now amounts to less then 16 percent.

A change for the better is taking place very slowly in the construction complex, which largely determines the intensification of the entire economy. In the first 6 months the plan for commissioning fixed capital has not been guaranteed. Particularly disturbing is the fact that only 91 percent of the plan for the construction of machine building enterprises has been fulfilled. A serious lag has been permitted at a number of major works for the production of mineral fertilizers and works of the chemical and petrochemical industries that are scheduled for commissioning. The work of railroad transportation is improving slowly.

The accomplishment of certain social tasks is also unsatisfactory. Six-month plans for the commissioning of schools, hospitals, polyclinics, vocational and technical schools, clubs, and houses of culture have not been fulfilled.

The reasons for shortcomings in the work of many industrial enterprises and of construction and transport organizations, in the development of social sphere, and miscalculations in economic management were fundamentally analyzed in March and April this year at the plenums of the Ukrainian Communist Party Central Committee. However, the projected measures to eliminate them and to strengthen restructuring, as one can see, were not reinforced at all levels by the necessary practical work.

The Secretariat, Central Committee departments, and local party committees did not ensure effective supervision of the fulfillment of elaborated plans. The Ukrainian SSR Council of Ministers also bears a considerable share of responsibility for the tardy raising and resolution of many fundamental questions of the development of the economy and the social sphere. Republic management organs are still not keeping pace with increasing tasks and are lagging behind life's requirements.

It is necessary to acknowledge that the Ukrainian Communist Party Central Committee Politburo does not always hold republic and oblast leaders accountable for permitted shortcomings and failures and is at times tardy in resolving urgent cadre questions.

/It should be clear to everyone,/ V.V. Shcherbitskiy said, /that the main thing today is to act energetically and to increase efforts in accomplishing the tasks set by life without losing a single day. This is the only correct path./

The CPSU Central Committee Plenum again stressed that party organizations must be in the vanguard of restructuring. And many party committees and primary party organizations are persistently gaining experience in leading restructuring.

One should note the work of the Donetsk, Zhitomir, and Kiev Obkoms, which, are increasing attention to people's needs, striving to analyze more deeply the state of affairs, and searching for new approaches to the leadership of socioeconomic development.

Dnepropetrovsk, Poltava, and Khmelnitskiy Oblast party organizations are purposefully working on assisting the labor collectives of lagging enterprises.

The Kiev Gorkom Bureau hears reports by gorkom and raykom secretaries and soviet and economic leaders on restructuring in the sectors entrusted to them. Information on this is published in city papers.

The Tsarichanskiy Raykom in Dnepropetrovsk Oblast and the Volnovakhskiy Raykom in Donetsk Oblast are in practice supporting creative quests and the autonomy of farm leaders, and are actively working to introduce family and collective contracts in rural areas.

But, unfortunately, many party committees have not only not acted as leaders in restructuring, but are themselves restructuring very slowly.

This is graphically displayed in the work style and methods of the Zaporozhye Obkom. Attention to the social sphere has significantly increased in the oblast, particularly in rural areas. But there have been no noticeable changes for the better in production and in the construction complex. Ferrous metallurgy enterprises continue to be at a fever pitch. Capital construction plans constantly break down. The oblast did not cope with the 6-month plan for milk purchases, and they decreased by 31,000 tonnes as against last year. Unfortunately, the obkom bureau, by assessing the situation without self-criticism, scatters its resources to accomplish tasks that the oblispolkom should primarily deal with, does not analyze cadre questions and the reasons for stagnant phenomena, and poorly directs the efforts of party organizations to eliminate them. The Ukrainian Communist Party Central Committee Politburo deems it necessary to draw the attention of the bureau obkom to this, as well as that of the republic organs, which must increase assistance to this oblast.

Restructuring is also timid in Vinnitsa, Nikolayev, Odessa, and Rovno Oblasts. In many sectors there it is simply not noticeable.

The state of affairs in the Kharkov City Party Organization gives rise for serious concern. The importance of the city's enterprises in the leading sector of our economy -- machine building -- is well known. However, today the output of many Kharkov plants is noticeably inferior in its parameters to the best examples. More than half of the scientific research institutes and design bureaus with a machine building specialization did not produce one development project last year that would meet world standards. Two-thirds of their subject matter was nonessential and nonspecialized work.

It is inexcusable that for the last 2 years the gorkom has not once turned to an analysis of these questions and has not given a principled assessment of the state of affairs. There is no proper accountability of cadres and supervision of their work. Because of the lack of principle and individual leaders, crude violations and abuses have been permitted in motor pool and orchard and truck farm cooperatives, whose members were certain leading workers, including Gorkom First Secretary Comrade K.V. Khirnyy.

It seems no accident that in this atmosphere a gang of crooks in the consumer services sphere was active in the city for a long time.

The Ukrainian Communist Party Central Committee Secretariat provided a proper assessment of these facts and obliged the Kharkov Obkom and its first secretary, Comrade V.P. Mysnichenko, to introduce order and assist the gorkom.

/Conservatism, bureaucratism, indecisiveness, an irresponsible attitude toward tasks, and a lack of businesslike initiative -- in short, old shackles and the burden of old habits -- still strongly impede restructuring./

This is displayed with particular vividness in the organization of combating drunkenness and alcoholism. Here the approach in many oblasts somehow recalls the ebb and flow of the sea. If we apply pressure and lean heavily, there is progress. If we relax attention a little, everything returns to its former state.

Thus, in 5 months this year in Kiev and in Odessa, Khmelnitskiy, Cherkassy, and a number of other oblasts the number of cases of communal drinking of spirits on the job and of arriving at work in an intoxicated state have increased. However, primary party organizations did not provide a proper and timely assessment of these facts. And this is not simply liberalism and permissiveness. This, as the Ukrainian Communist Party Central Committee Politburo recently noted, is a direct violation of party discipline and nonfulfillment of CPSU Central Committee requirements.

The CPSU Central Committee Party Control Committee has singled out serious shortcomings in the work to qvercome drunkenness in Poltava Oblast. Comrade A.S. Myakota, oblispolkom chairman; Comrade A.I. Kovinko, obkom secretary; and Comrade A. Ye. Mishchenko, chief of the internal affairs administration, have been given party reprimands. We hope that the obkom bureau and Comrade F.T. Morgun personally draw the necessary conclusions from this.

It was already mentioned at the previous Ukrainian Communist Party Central Committee Plenum that the sale of sugar has sharply increased in a number of oblasts due to a lack of an effective struggle against moonshining. The situation has been improving recently. But here too the matter was not without attempts to resolve everything by orders. In a number of oblasts, with the consent of republic organizations, restrictive limits were imposed on trade enterprises. As a result, irregularities appeared in the trade of sugar at a time when the season for preserving berries and fruit had begun. It is understandable that the struggle against moonshiners should be intensified, but, of course, not by these methods.

Comrades! The Central Committee plenum identified the provision of food, housing, consumer goods and services to the population as priority tasks for party organizations and soviet and economic organs. And this is understandable; after all, people perceive restructuring primarily by how questions that are directly associated with their everyday lives are resolved.

If one talks about the food problem, the situation here in the republic, like the country as a whole, is improving. Last year the production of grain, as compared with 1984, increased by 1.4 million tonnes, dressed meat by 329,000 tonnes, milk by almost 750,000 tonnes, and eggs by 910 million units.

This is good, but by no means what is required. Difficulties with supply remain. There are objective opportunities to seriously change the food situation; moreover, within the next 2-3 years. A powerful potential has been created in the rural areas; economic conditions and economic management methods have improved, and scope for initiative and creative work has expanded.

However, the use of all this in a number of oblasts and in many rayons and at many farms is simply bad. Vinnitsa, Kirovograd, and Nikolayev Oblasts were criticized sharply and justly in the report at the June CPSU Central Committee Plenum for unsatisfactory accomplishment of food tasks. To them one can add Odessa Oblast.

Take a look: About 150 quintals of meat per hundred hectares of land is produced in Dnepropetrovsk, Donetsk, and Crimean Oblasts, while in Kirovograd, Nikolayev, and Odessa Oblasts it is only 102-117 quintals. The situation with milk is similar.

In the first 6 months Poltava and Chernovitsy Oblasts, having overfulfilled the procurement plan and having coped with deliveries to the union-republic stock, increased market stocks of meat by 2,800 and 1,600 tonnes and of milk by 6,000 and 4,000 tonnes as compared with last year, while Kirovograd Oblast did not even provide the planned volume of supply, and Nikolayev Oblast's provision of milk and dairy products to the population significantly worsened. Moreover, both these oblasts did not fulfill deliveries to the union-republic stock.

It has reached a point where in recent years cabbages, carrots, tomatoes, and onions have been delivered to Vinnitsa and Kirovograd from other oblasts. Odessa residents, having 216,000 hectares under irrigation, purchase from neighboring Moldavia tomatoes, eggplants, and peppers, and table beet even from Lithuania. Is commentary necessary here?

We have the right today, the speaker stressed, to ask Obkom First Secretaries Comrades L.L. Krivoruchko, N.I. Samilyk, L.G. Sharayev, A.P. Nochevkin and Oblispolkom Chairmen Comrades N.A. Didyk, V.I. Zheliba, V.I. Ilin, and A.V. Pecherov, when will you finally engage in restructuring and accomplish -- not verbally, but in practice -- tasks that became critical long ago?

/The CPSU Central Committee Plenum defined precisely the areas of work to increase food resources./

This is primarily a mastering of intensive technologies, the widespread introduction of contractual forms of labor organization, and the social reorganization of villages. The republic already has some experience. This year 10.7 million hectares of agricultural crops are being cultivated according to intensive technologies, including more than 7 million hectares of cereal crops. Two-thirds of those employed in crop farming and livestock raising work on collective contract principles. And they, as a rule, achieve high indicators.

R.S. Romanyuk's 5-man contract collective at the "Prapor Komunyizmu" kolkhoz in Kilomyyskiy Rayon, Ivano-Frankovsk Oblast last year harvested 59 quintals of grain per hectare. Its production cost is lower by a factor of 1.7 and labor outlays are 50 percent lower than the kolkhoz average.

In the M.I. Kalinin kolkhoz in Berdyanskiy Rayon, Zaporozhye Oblast, a 10-man mechanized brigade that has been led for many years by Communist P.P. Goma constantly obtains R30-40,000 of output per worker from assigned dry crop rotation, or 3 times that of the farm.

In the 25th CPSU Congress superior seed growing sovkhoz in Goshchanskiy Rayon, Rovno Oblast, a 7-man team headed by L.K. Dubich raises 1,126 head of young cattle for meat. The average daily weight gain there is 895 grams, while the weight of a sold head is 621 kg. Each team member provides the farm with R114,000 of profit per year.

We have quite a few such examples of highly productive labor.

It is necessary to discuss the family and personal contract separately. In the republic 427,000 people now work according to these principles. And in places where this task is done properly, the results are also good. In the Khorolskiy sovkhoz-technical school in Poltava Oblast 2 families fattened 2,200 pigs, whose average daily weight gain amounted to about 450 grams as against 320 grams for the kolkhoz. These progressive forms are widely used in Ternopol, Voroshilovgrad, and Transcarpathian Oblasts. At the same time they are almost unused in Volyn, Zhitomir, and Rovno Oblasts.

We think that the time for persuasion and agitation in favor of the collective, family, and personal contract has passed. It is necessary to work actively and substantively on their practical introduction, to support initiators of the new, and to make conservatively minded leaders more strictly accountable.

It is also important to be more persistent in creating new organizational structures such as agricultural firms and production systems, associations, and cooperatives.

It is necessary to utilize all reserves to increase food resources, including citizen's personal farming. One has to remind you of this because, unfortunately, by no means all oblast, rayon, kolkhoz, and sovkhoz leaders have yet really understood the significance of the private sector. If in Donetsk Oblast, for instance, meat production among the population has increased in the last 10 years from 52,000 to 92,000 tonnes, in Vinnitsa Oblast it has decreased by 14 percent and does not exceed 220 kg per homestead. Milk production there has also decreased. Last year meat production at personal farms in 11 oblasts decreased. And this is no accident. Concern is not being shown for providing these farms with feed, and the sale of pigs to them is decreasing.

Many oblispolkoms, primarily the Crimean (chairman -- Comrade A.M. Roshchupkin), the Kiev (Comrade I.S. Plyushch), and the Chernigov (Comrade M.V. Grishko), are not using existing opportunities to improve the supply of food commodities to the population via local resources and are working unsatisfactorily on the development of collective orchard cultivation and truck farming. In 1986, 14 oblasts did not meet targets for allocating plots for orchards and truck farms. This year it is planned to earmark 221,000 of them, but for the time being only 95,000 have been allocated. The Ukrainian SSR Gosagroprom [State Agro-Industrial Committee] (Comrade A.N. Tkachenko) and the Ukrainian Council of Trade Unions (Comrade V.A. Sologub) are organizing this work badly.

The consumer cooperatives system is utilizing its opportunities very poorly. In recent years it has significantly decreased the number of produce procurement centers in rural areas. Many potrebsoyuzes have reduced production of sausage products and preserves, nonalcoholic beverages, and fish products. And those products that are manufactured are frequently of very low quality.

Is it possible, Comrade S.V. Litvinenko, that you are not aware of these facts? And if you are, then why are you not taking effective measures to improve the situation?

Today there is no need, the speaker then said, to deal in detail with the cardinal questions of developing the agro-industrial complex, because we discussed them thoroughly last December at the Ukrainian Communist Party Central Committee Plenum, which examined the tasks of the republic's party organization in fulfilling the CPSU Central Committee resolution "On the Work of Party, Soviet, and Economic Organs of the Ukrainian SSR to Increase Production and Purchases of Grain in Light of the Requirements of the 27th CPSU Congress."

It is necessary to properly supervise fulfillment of the projected measures and to give practical assistance to farms. The organizing essence and initiative in all these matters must stem from the Ukrainian SSR Gosagroprom and its local organs. However, for the time being they are very slowly overcoming the fear of the new and the adherence to old work forms and bureaucratic instructions and directions. It is clear that this work style, Comrade Yu.A. Kolomiyets, does not meet the spirit of the times. We hope that both you personally and your deputies will draw the proper conclusions, the more so that it is not the first time that this is being discussed.

Comrades! As is known, the CPSU Central Committee Plenum once again drew our attention to the need to do everything possible to accomplish a /major task — to provide practically every family with a separate apartment or house by the year 2000./

The appropriate calculations have been made in all oblasts and ministries and in the republic as a whole. Already in this 5-year plan the volume of housing construction will be increased as compared with the plan by no less than 10 percent, and in the next 2 5-year plans it is necessary to ensure the growth of capital investments for these purposes by a factor of 1.4 and 1.6, respectively.

Of course, it will be difficult to accomplish this. It is necessary to make major efforts, and the main thing is to make maximum use of all reserves and opportunities. They do exist and they are considerable. For instance, already more than 200 Ukrainian enterprises and organizations, using the experience of the Gorkiy Motor Vehicle Plant's collective, have decided to provide each family with an individual apartment 3-5 years in advance. The Ukrainian Communist Party Central Committee has supported this initiative. And we expect that it will find new followers.

It is also necessary to make sure that the deductions from industrial construction for the building of housing and of social, cultural, and everyday facilities are brought up to 10 percent. It is necessary to practice more widely the building of apartment houses by the internal resources method [khozyaystvennyy sposob]. This work is actively developing, for instance, in Kiev's Leningradskiy Rayon. This year 500 apartments will be built there using the internal resources method, and 1,000 next year. However, this approach has not become firmly established everywhere. After all, this year the republic's enterprises will build only 840,000 square meters of housing with their own resources, or 7 percent of the volume commissioned via capital investments.

The republic's Gosplan and Gosstroy, together with oblispolkoms, also need to resolutely eliminate the causes holding back the development of housing cooperatives and the construction of homes via the population's resources. All is also not well with individual construction, primarily in rural areas, where its volume in the 11th 5-Year Plan was half that of the 9th. Of course, this can continue no longer.

It goes without saying that not 1 ruble designated by the state for housing construction can be lost. Unfortunately, in Transcarpathian, Chernigov, and Kherson Oblasts these resources are systematically not being assimilated.

One has to speak again about the fact that not everywhere in local areas are housing construction combines working at full capacity. In the Main Administration for Housing and Civil Engineering Construction of the Kiev Gorispolkom they are working at 94 percent of capacity, in the Ministry of Construction -- 85 percent, and in the Ukrainian SSR Gosagroprom -- only 70 percent.

The requirements of builders and the population for wall-building materials are systematically not being met. At the same time, for instance, one-third of the existing capacities throughout the Gosagroprom are not used, and consequently there is an annual production shortfall of 1.5 billion bricks.

The question of procuring household items has worsened in connection with the growth of the volume of housing construction, including via the transfer of part of the resources from industrial construction. The deputies at last week's session of the Ukrainian SSR Supreme Soviet discussed this with alarm.

The commissioning of additional capacities for the production of sanitary ware and gas ranges is only planned for 1989-90. The Ukrainian SSR Ministry of the Construction Materials Industry, the Ministry of Construction, the Ministry of Installation and Special Construction Work, and Gossnab must work to shorten this timeframe.

/Solving the housing problem also requires systematic development of municipal services./ Today almost 150 urban-type communities do not have a central water supply, and 60 towns and more than 500 settlements do not have sewage systems. At the same time, resources allocated for these goals are not being assimilated.

How long will the Ukrainian SSR Gosplan, ministries and departments, and particularly the ispolkoms of local soviets put up with this? Comrade P.Ye. Yesipenko, deputy chairman of the republic's Council of Ministers, should also assess the state of affairs more self-critically and find ways of accomplishing the aforesaid tasks, particular the creation of a modern production base for the construction of housing and its maintenance, which has patently fallen behind the requirements of the times.

Now /for goods and services./ The Ukrainian Communist Party Central Committee Politburo considers the work to improve the supply of consumer goods to the population and the development of the services sphere unsatisfactory. And there is every justification for this assessment. There have not been fundamental changes in infusing the market with quality goods.

The plan for commodity turnover is not being fulfilled because of a shortage in commodity resources and shortcomings in the organization of trade. In 1986, for the republic as a whole, production of nonfood goods increased by only 3.9 percent, and 9 oblasts even decreased their production as compared with last year. The Ukrainian SSR Ministry of Light Industry, Ministry of Local Industry, Ministry of Consumer Services, the Ukrainian SSR Union of Consumer Societies, and enterprises in 15 oblasts and the city of Kiev did not even project reaching, according to the 2-year results of the 5-year plan, the levels of the comprehensive program of goods and services. As a result of this, the balance of the population's incomes and expenditures is deteriorating.

Taking the prevailing situation into account, in April the Ukrainian Communist Party Central Committee Politburo agreed with the proposal advanced by the Ukrainian SSR Council of Ministers on additional commodity production and provision of paid services this year amounting to almost R5.2 billion. However, the range of goods for more than one-half of the additional fixed targets still has not been coordinated with trading organizations. And this is permitted at a time when the growth rate of cultural, consumer, and household goods production in the first 6 months is half of that planned for the year. Each month, machine building and heavy chemical industry enterprises and the majority of oblasts disrupted the fulfillment of output plans for these goods.

We have a right to lodge serious complaints about this with many ministers, managers of enterprises, oblispolkom chairmen, and Comrade Ye. V. Kachalovskiy, first deputy chairman of the Council of Ministers, who is responsible for this sector. One also cannot deem satisfactory the work in this sphere of the secretaries of the majority of Ukrainian Communist Party Central Committee departments. /Trade and consumer services for the population also require significant improvement./

As before, there is a lack of proper professional contacts in the activity of the leaders and apparatus of the Ukrainian SSR Ministry of Trade and the Union of consumer Societies, major miscalculations in commercial work are permitted, and there is no mutual coordination. Commodity resources are being badly redistributed, resulting in the creation of surpluses of them in some oblasts and shortages in others. Numerous complaints continue about irregularities in the trade of even those commodities that are in abundance at depots and warehouses.

Individual labor activity, as well as cooperatives for providing services and producing goods, should be used more widely to better satisfy the needs of the population. At present in the republic 36,500 citizens have already received the appropriate patents and more than 1,000 cooperatives have been created, about half of which have begun operation.

Unfortunately, in a number of oblasts this work is simply bad. Thus, only 10 cooperatives have been organized in Khmelnitskiy Oblast, 14 each in Kirovgrad and Kherson Oblasts, and 19 in Sumy Oblast.

V.V. Shcherbitskiy once again stressed that /people will judge restructuring primarily by how the state of affairs changes in sectors that directly affect their lives, everyday activities, and recreation./ And everyone is obliged to draw the necessary conclusions from this.

Comrades! /Implementing the line of the April (1985) CPSU Central Committee Plenum for a democratization of public life and the deepening and development of openness is favorably affecting the entire political atmosphere and morale of the republic./ People are bolder in their opinions, more exacting toward themselves and others, and more intolerant of slackness and irresponsibility.

The appointment of leading workers by election is becoming widespread. Since the January CPSU Central Committee Plenum, more than 800 people, and this is 1 leader in every 3 replaced in an enterprises or organization, have been elected by open or secret ballot. However, a "sickness" such as an inability to live and work in conditions of democracy, or even simply a fear of democratic changes are manifesting themselves more and more graphically among a proportion of cadres.

This was shown, in particular, by the report of the Ivano-Frankovsk Obkom to the Ukrainian Communist Party Central Committee. The obkom and a number of gorkoms and raykoms are not ensuring the proper development of openness. [paragraph continues]

Obkom secretaries and bureau members are not getting a personal example in developing democratic forms of work, criticism, and self-criticism. The role of plenums and party meetings has been belittled, they are often orchestrated, and have not become a tool for invigorating Communists and for developing a genuinely collective opinion. The Central Committee Politburo drew the attention of the obkom bureau and of First Secretary Comrade I.G. Postoronko personally to the tardiness in implementing the party's precepts.

The mass information media in Chernovitsy Oblast are inadequately and often clumsily used to developing openness, criticism, and self-criticism. This was pointed out to the obkom during discussion of its report to the Ukrainian Communist Party Central Committee Secretariat.

Weak aspects showed up in the work of many party committees and soviet organs in the preparation for elections to local soviets of people's deputies, which on the whole went well. But here and there people's opinions were not thoroughly studied. This resulted in a number of candidates failing to be elected. Attention should be drawn to the fact that 16 party workers, including 8 raykom secretaries, were not elected. One should draw conclusions and know who enjoys genuine respect and prestige among people, and who continues to count on the prestige of a position.

Cases of an incorrect reaction by individual leaders to criticism and their attempts to get even with those they find objectionable give rise to concern.

Facts about the invalid expulsion from CPSU membership of employees of the oblast court and prosecutor's office by the Lutsk Gorkom were recently uncovered. The union and republic press reported this. Measures have been taken. Those subjected to persecution have been reinstated in the party and at work, and the guilty have been punished.

But the question naturally arises: How could this have happened after the CPSU Central Committee and the Ukrainian Communist Party Central Committee gave a principled assessment of what had occurred in Voroshilovgrad, Dnepropetrovsk, and Lvov Oblasts? Moreover, the Ukrainian Communist Party Central Committee had repeatedly drawn the attention of the Volyn Obkom and First and Second Secretaries Comrades Z.S. Kovalchuk and V.I. Zhibrov personally to oversights in their work and gave them a severe party reprimand.

But even after this the obkom first secretary did not draw the right conclusions and systematically violated the principle of collectiveness in leadership, which led to serious errors, primarily in the selection of cadres. The recent Volyn Obkom plenum released Comrades Kovalchuk and Zhibrov from their duties.

The Ukrainian Communist Party Central Committee Politburo and Secretariat will continue, in a totally principled way, to correct and if necessary release those leaders who will not accept democratic change, openness, criticism, and self-criticism and who do not want to restructure.

Ensuring That the Management of the Republic's National Economy Is Restructured [subhead]

The nature, substance, and basic principles of the forthcoming economic reform are thoroughly set out in the documents of the CPSU Central Committee and of the USSR Supreme Soviet session.

In this context, V.V. Shcherbitskiy said that he would like to dwell on only a few of the principal issues connected with the cardinal restructuring of management, and to pick out the main tasks which we will have to accomplish both in the near future and in the long term. It is now extraordinarily important to precisely plan out all of this responsible work and to deploy forces correctly.

To this end, and taking into account the documents which had been adopted earlier to implement the decisions of the 27th CPSU Congress and the January (1987) CPSU Central Committee Plenum, the Ukrainian Communist Party Central Committee Politburo has developed organizational and political measures to implement the decisions of the June CPSU Central Committee Plenum, and has submitted them for discussion by the present plenum. A draft of the measures has benn sent out to the obkoms, ministries, and departments. Central Committee full and candidate members, as well as members of the Auditing Commission of the Ukrainian Communist Party, have become acquainted with it. Important proposals have been voiced. There is no doubt that supplements and more precise definitions will also be submitted during the present plenum's work.

/The measures devote paramount attention to implementation of the USSR Law on the State Enterprise (Association)./ This is now a most important political task. The personal responsibility for its accomplishment is borne above all by the leaders of ministries, departments, enterprises, associations, and soviet ispolkoms, and by the secretaries of party committees and organizations. It is necessary to work out a concrete plan of action in each branch and sphere, and in each labor collective.

The measures project the organization of in-depth study of the law's provisions at all management levels in party, soviet, and economic organs and in labor collectives. It is intended to attract the best scientific forces of the Academy of Sciences, higher educational establishments, and scientific research institutes, and also experienced specialists from production, to take part in this work.

The preparation of associations and enterprises for the transition to full economic accountability and self-financing, and also the creation of the necessary preconditions for this, are of paramount importance. It stands to reason that first of all one must take care to strengthen their financial state, to increase their profitability, and to eliminate losses.

In this context it is important to take fully into account the experience of enterprises already working under conditions of full economic accountability and self-financing. There are about 500 such collectives in the republic, and many of them have achieved good results.

The mines of the "Krasnoarmeyskugol" association in Donetsk Oblast have been operating under the new conditions for 6 months. All coal-extracting brigades and more than half the head [prokhodcheskiy] brigades have transferred to economic accountability here. As a result, coal extraction has increased by 4.9 percent and labor productivity has risen by 6.2 percent, with the same capacities as before. An extra R33 million in profits has been obtained. The funds for production development, material incentives, and social development have risen substantially.

Among the pioneers of economic management methods one can also name the following production associations: the Dnepropetrovsk K. Ye. Voroshilov Harvesting Combine Plant, the "Konveyer" association in Lvov, the "Kiyevtraktorodetal" association, the Zaporozhye abrasives combine, and the Voroshilovgrad Knitwear Factory.

I would also like to emphasize that /the expansion of democracy and the first sprouts of self-management have increased the interest which labor collectives, workers, and specialists take in production matters, intensified their intolerance of bad management and sloppiness, and strengthened their aspiration to achieve better final results./

However, time teaches everyone not only to see successes, but also draw the correct lessons from shortcomings and omissions. And these exist. After all, one out of three of the enterprises transferred to full economic accountability and self-financing do not fulfill the plan for contractual deliveries.

They are hindered from advancing to a higher standard of economic operation and from stopping lags primarily by cadres' dependent consumerist attitudes, timidity, and incompetence. Many leaders and specialists still have not recognized that management on the basis of economic methods calls for extraordinary solutions and painstaking work in all sectors of production. And some leaders will evidently never learn this. For this reason it is necessary to strengthen the composition of leading cadres, to carry through elections in the next 18 months on the basis of a widely applied competitive system, and to form labor collective councils as stipulated by law.

Guided by the decisions of the January (1987) CPSU Central Committee Plenum, the party committees and primary party organizations must take care to create an atmosphere of genuine democracy and openness and to promote competent, highly qualified specialists, front-ranking workers, women, and nonparty people.

Particular attention is required by the development and timely introduction in enterprises of norms determining the distribution of profit, the formation of funds for incentives, social development, and so on. Miscalculations and sluggishness are inadmissible here. They may not only stretch out the restructuring process but also reduce all efforts to nothing.

This danger exists. After all, many enterprises and construction sites which had already been transferred to the new conditions of economic management were late in receiving a number of norms from the ministries. Take, for example, the republic's ferrous metallurgical enterprises. They have been transferred to the new conditions of economic management since 1 January this year, but only 3 out of the 12 basic economic norms had reached the collectives in this branch by this time; another 6 reached them in February, and as yet there are no norms for the 3 remaining indexes.

On the other hand, it is impermissible to introduce unsubstantiated norms which encroach on labor collectives' interests and undermine their interest in high final results of work. Thus, the republic's light industrial enterprises have now been set such norms for deductions from profits that they will need almost 2 decades simply to renew extremely worn equipment, while there is no point even in talking about the timely fulfillment of a wide range of pressing social tasks.

Another alarming fact is that not one of the 34 machine building enterprises surveyed this year has set about seriously and profoundly restructuring economic work. The same situation is true of many enterprises in the Ukrainian SSR Ministry of the Coal Industry, State Agro-Industrial Committee, and Ministry of the Forestry Industry, where they are in no hurry to introduce economic methods of management.

Much of the blame for all this rests with the ministries and departments, which continue, even under the new conditions, to encroach on the enterprises' independence in every way possible. The Ukrainian SSR Council of Ministers, State Planning Committee, ministries, and departments must do everything necessary for enterprises and associations to be able to work in conditions of full economic accountability.

A bolder approach must be taken to the reasonable enlargement of enterprises, and also to the creation of inter-branch scientific-technological complexes, scientific and production associations, trading and industrial associations, and design and construction associations. It is finally time to overcome the narrow departmental and parochial barriers which hold back the processes of production concentration and collaboration, as well as of the development of integration processes. It is necessary to work out and introduce appropriate proposals on transferring small- and medium-sized enterprises to the control of local soviets.

The firmest control must be established at all levels over the rigorous fulfillment of the requirements of the USSR Law on the State Enterprise (Association). A considerable amount will have to be done to revise or annul all departmental instructions, tenets, and methods which run counter to the law.

The primary party organizations of enterprises and associations have a great role to play in mobilizing Communists and all working people to solve urgent economic problems, in transferring to new methods of economic management, and in implementing the principles of self-management in labor collectives.

/Party organizations must do everything to develop each working person's sense of being a true proprietor of production, and to actively promote the development of economic competition./

The speaker then went on to note that it is clear that /fundamental restructuring of management at the republican level/ will also be necesary for the USSR Law on the State Enterprise (Association) to go into effect. The quality of economic management does not meet the demands of the times.

The structure of many ministries and departments is still complicated. Excessively administrative methods predominate in their activity, and this leads to impermissible interference in the affairs of labor collectives and engenders bureaucratism and red tape. All this is slowing down the introduction of the new economic mechanism.

The organizational and political measures envision the maximum simplification of the management structure, its reduction to a two-tier system, as a rule, and a considerable reduction in the numbers of managerial personnel. The development of a general scheme for national economic management is assuming great economic and political significance in this context.

The Council of Ministers and State Planning Committee of the Ukrainian SSR will now have to concentrate on the main areas which determine the strategy, tactics, and proportions of the republic's economic development, and which also define the increase of its contribution to the country's single national economic complex.

Once they have transferred some of their functions to the associations and enterprises, the branch ministries must free these organizations from petty supervision and "pressure" planning, and must direct their efforts toward resolving the main issues of developing the branches, toward increasing the quality and competitiveness of products, and toward satisfying the requirements of the national economy.

Work to improve organizational structures and to cut down the management apparatus in the republic is already going on. After the April (1985) CPSU Central Committee Plenum the Ukrainian SSR State Agro-Industrial Committee was founded, a number of ministries and departments and 76 medium-ranking organs were abolished, and 1,500 enterprises, workshops, sectors, and other structural subunits were enlarged. The management apparatus was cut by 78,000 people, and the expenditure on its upkeep was reduced by R223 million per annum. Seven ministries and departments have been made ready for the transition to a two-tier system of management.

Unfortunately the leaders of many republican organs, above all the Ministries of the Timber and Wood Processing Industry, of the Forestry Industry, of Health, and of Higher and Secondary Specialized Education, and also the the Main Administration of the River Fleet, have not so far submitted proposals for simplifying the management structure and cutting numbers in the apparatus. And the Ukrainian SSR Ministry of Local Industry has prepared proposals for restructuring which, if they were to be implemented, would require a 50 percent increase in the staff of the ministry's central apparatus. Is this really a serious approach, Comrade Yu.A. Bondar?

Another example is that of the Ukrainian SSR Ministry of Light Industry. It is planned to create scientific-production and inter-branch industrial trading associations in light industry. Such formations are already in operation in Estonia and Georgia, where they have shown their vitality and effectiveness. Last year the experience of their work was studied by a group of executives from the republic's Council of Ministers, the State Planning Committee, and ministries. Nearly a year has passed since then, but no such association has been set up here.

It turns out that the Ukrainian SSR Ministry of Light Industry and Ministry of Trade are lagging behind events, engaging in a "tug of war," as they say, and cannot at all determine who it is that must display initiative here. But it is the corresponding deputy chairman of the Council of Ministers and Central Committee secretaries who are responsible for this.

The same conservatism is displayed by the leaders of certain ministries and departments on matters of improving the organizational structure of scientific institutions. So far, the Ukrainian SSR Ministry of Housing and Municipal Services and the Ministry of Highway Construction and Maintenance have not set about this work in a serious way, and things are moving slowly in other branches.

As is known, the CPSU Central Committee Plenum identified the task of not simply improving leadership, but of fundamentally improving the activity of republican organs and creating an integrated, effective system of management. It was recognized as necessary to concentrate the management of base branches largely in the union ministries.

In accordance with this, in our republic the ministries of ferrous metallurgy, of the coal industry, of power and electrification, and of geology will be abolished, as will the Main Administration of the Petroleum Refining and Petrochemical Industry. These branches represent a very complex economic organization. There are about 2,000 enterprises and organizations here, employing over 2 million workers.

Together with the corresponding union ministries, the Ukrainian SSR Council of Ministers will have to work out, in the shortest possible time, a flexible and effective system for managing the enterprises in this branch, and most importantly, place their work under constant control in order to prevent a decline in the fulfillment of plans for the production and delivery of the most important product types.

/The restructuring of economic management projects a significant increase in the role of local soviets of peoples' deputies in ensuring the comprehensive development of regions, in more fully satisfying people's needs, and in improving the balance between effective demand by the population and the output volume of commodity output and service provision./

The soviets now have to determine how to involve oblast enterprises, regardless of their departmental subordination, in accomplishing these tasks, as well as which inter-branch production units and associations and which economically accountable production application organizations. The scientific centers of the republic's Academy of Sciences and the party committees' councils for promoting scientific-technological progress must ensure in-depth scientific work on and preparation for substantiated decisions.

It has been recognized as expedient to create main administrations for production economics, attached to oblast ispolkoms, for practical management of the national economy at the local level. In this context it will be necessary to find out painstakingly which sectors and management subunits can be enlarged or abolished in the rayons, towns, and oblasts, but this must not involve imitating the central organs.

The success of restructuring economic management largely depends on the Ukrainian SSR Council of Ministers. Under the new conditions, its functions are being substantially expanded. The republic's government is invested with responsibility for the comprehensive accomplishment of economic and social tasks, the use of existing scientific-technological potential, satisfaction of the population's needs for foodstuffs, commodities, and services, for priority development of the social complex, and for the formation and use of the budget.

The Council of Ministers must fully assume the new functions which have been engendered by the dialectics of the restructuring process. The Council of Ministers Presidium should work with considerably greater initiative, and should be more critical and principled in assessing the activity of ministers, departmental heads, and oblast ispolkom chairmen.

The personal responsibility of members of the republic's government for restructuring economic management is undoubtedly increasing under the new conditions. Their approach to the task and their organizational and practical work must serve as a model of concern for state and nationwide interests, of consistency and persistence in implementing decisions which have been adopted, and of in-depth analysis and evaluation of the prospects for branches' development.

/In accordance with the directives of the CPSU Central Committee Plenum/, the speaker went on to say, /it is planned to implement a complex of measures in the republic which will be aimed at restructuring planning, material-technical supply, price formation, and the finance and credit mechanism./

The reorientation of planning toward the solution of long-term problems is impossible without a substantial increase in the scientific standard of national economic plans and forecasts. In order to achieve this, it is necessary for several variants of national economic plans to be worked through, as a rule. The leadership of this immense and qualitatively new work has been assigned to the Ukrainian SSR State Planning Committee, which must now become the truly leading organ of state management, bearing full responsibility for planned implementation of effective development of the republic's entire economy.

Taking the new tasks into account, it is necessary to change the structure of subunits of the State Planning Committee, as well as the basic areas of these subunits' operation, and to strengthen the combined socioeconomic, and territorial subunits. The time has come to resolutely abandon the narrow branch orientation in the State Planning Committee's work.

Unfortunately, the State Planning Committee's departments are extremely slow in ridding themselves of the old ways, and are still operating without regard to the long term, and at times also without the proper responsibility.

/A no less important task is that of restructuring the system of material and technical supply, and of shifting from the centralized funding of resources to retail trade./ Even in the 20th 5-Year Plan period, enterprises will acquire more than 30 percent of their materal resources through wholesale trade. In the long term, this trade will become all-embracing.

Taking this into account, the organizations of the Ukrainian SSR State Committee for Material and Technical Supply must change from being "transit shipment" depots into large enterprises which build their mutual relations with the consumer on a strictly economically accountable basis. The measures provide for the creation of a network of retail trade stores, sorting points and bases, using some departmental storehouses for this. And this must be done efficiently. It is important to accelerate the conclusion of construction work on regional centers providing services and on depots for the hire of various kinds of technical equipment; this will be of great importance for the development of an economic method of construction.

These are all the paramount tasks of the collegium of the Ukrainian SSR State Committee for Material and Technical Supply, of its chairman, Comrade P.I. Mostovoy, and of the deputy chairman of the Council of Ministers, Comrades N.F. Nikolayev, G.V. Dzis, and P.Ye. Yesipenko.

Much work will have to be done on /a radical reform of the price-formation system./ Prices are today one of the major bottlenecks in the relations of economic accountablility. To all intents and purposes they do not properly stimulate an increase in product quality, the saving of resources, or the economy's receptiveness to the latest achievements of science and technology. The basis for restructuring the pricing system is to be provided by progressive norms for the expenditure of material, labor, and financial resources per unit of production. The development of these norms in the corresponding branches must be conducted with account being taken of the contemporary level of technology and production organization.

On the basis of this, reliable and skilled control over the price-forming process, over the correct application of prices, and over the validation of various kinds of markups and discounts is becoming the most important function of the Ukrainian SSR State Committee on Prices. The republication State Committee on Prices and the ispolkoms of local soviets of people's deputies are especially strictly bound to control the pricing dynamics of consumer goods, including the range of children's items and food products.

As the CPSU Central Committee noted, the number of economic units in the country which are not fulfilling their tasks for profits and production cost reductions in increasing. Losses and the size of subsidies have increased. The leveling-out process has begun to predominate in income distribution. Credit has lost its main functions. All this confirms that the finance and credit mechanism which has formed does not promote increased effectiveness in social production.

An analysis of the long-term trends in the formation of the cost-price and profitability of the basic types of products made in the republic also shows that some industrial enterprises do not yet possess the economic conditions for a transition to full economic accountability and self-financing, due to their losses or low profitability. Distortions in financial policy and in price formation have led to a situation where, for example, this year's budgetary expenditure on financing production units in the coal industry and the agro-industrial complex is greater than the budget's income from these branches' activity.

Certain ministries which are operating under the new economic management conditions frequently plan income distribution in such a way that a semblance of economic success is created for the branch as a whole. The losses and bad management of enterprises which are working poorly are covered up at the expense of front-ranking collectives. Such cases exist within the systems of the Ukrainian SSR Ministry of Light Industry and the Main Administration of the Petroleum Refining and Petrochemical Industry, while the Ministry of Finance (Comrade I.A. Zabrodin) occupies the position of a casual observer here.

There will have to be a decisive shift to a fundamentally new financial policy, as well as an increase in the responsibility of the Ukrainian SSR Ministry of Finance for the effectiveness of the economic mechanism over the republic's entire territory and for the implementation of true financial control over the results of economic operations. The Ukrainian SSR Council of Ministers should also intensify the role of the Ministry of Finance in ensuring balanced financing of production development and in coordinating the actions taken by financial organs and banks to improve money turnover. The ministry and its local organs are obliged to concentrate their attention on strengthening the profitable part of local soviets' budgets and on making a precise comparison of expenditure and the income obtained.

It is also necessary to restore the true purpose of bank credit and to make it an instrument of production intensification and of the consolidation of disciplined payment. Even at the stage where contracts are being concluded, the republican branch offices of Gosbank and the Bank for Financing Capital Investments must ensure a balance between enterprises' demands and their potential. One cannot be well off at the state's expense or use credits to cover losses incurred through bad management and incompetent leadership.

The banks have now been given great powers. Everything must be done to ensure that the reorganization of the finance and credit system makes it possible in practice to turn the banks into reliable and interested partners of enterprises and organizations, and into active participants in the restructuring process.

The process of transferring the entire national economy to a new system of management, noted the speaker, will take a certain amount of time. The transitional period, when the coexistence of old and new management methods will be inevitable, will be a particularly complex and responsible one. It stands to reason that this period must not be dragged out, and that one must not put off until tomorrow what can and must be done right away. That would be the most damaging of mistakes.

The CPSU Central Committee Plenum demanded that all work be completed in the next 2 years. The CPSU Central Committee commits party organizations, soviets, trade unions, the Komsomol, economic organs, and all leading cadres to urgently setting about the fulfillment of the practical tasks advanced by the Central Committee plenum. These tasks must be backed up by purposeful organizational, political, and ideological-educational work at all levels of management, and above all, directly in the labor collectives. In each of the latter it is necessary to work out a concrete program of the transition to progressive methods of economic operation.

It is important to provide a profound and convincing explanation of the essence and principles of the restructuring process, and to use concrete examples to show what is already being done and what must be done to carry it out.

People must have a profound knowledge and understanding of the urgent tasks. Only in this case is it possible to count on the activation of the human factor, without which no restructuring is possible.

We must use all tried and tested methods to increase the role of primary party organizations.

The party accountability report and election campaign which will begin in August must also be subordinated to the accomplishment of these tasks. It is necessary to take care to ensure that Communists' attention is concentrated on implementing the restructuring process and that each party organization increases its contribution to this nationwide cause.

In accordance with the CPSU Central Committee plenum resolution, accountability reports prepared by elected organs on their work to lead in the restructuring process will be discussed at party committee plenums and at meetings of Communists at the end of this year. This is a responsible task, and one must be well prepared for it. We hope that the meetings and plenums will take place in an atmosphere of frankness and of constructive criticism of shortcomings. Only in this case will it be possible to develop good measures to improve the situation and strengthen the restructuring process.

Whatever aspect of our work we take, V.V. Shcherbitskiy noted, everything ultimately depends on cadres, on their understanding of the need for restructuring, and on their ability to put it into practice.

We do have cadres. However, the majority of them have been brought up to be good, conscientious executors. This is no longer enough. Restructuring can only be furthered by active, bold, creative, and, it goes without saying, competent people.

Where are they to be obtained? The answer to this question was given by the January (1987) CPSU Central Committee Plenum and the March (1987) Ukrainian Communist Party Central Committee Plenum.

I would now like simply to emphasize that /we are obliged to conduct work with cadres as V.I. Lenin taught us, on the basis of comprehensive consideration of the specific features of the concrete historical situation, above all the economic one./ (V.I. Lenin, Vol 42, p 162) The present economic situation demands that leading cadres gain a high awareness of the newness and scale of the reform and learn to act effectively on the basis of new principles of economic management.

This is possible only on condition that all cadres go back to school figuratively speaking, and raise their economic knowledge to a new standard. All forms of study and the entire system of retraining leading cadres must be subordinated to in-depth assimilation of the foundations of economic knowledge. An example should be set by full and candidate Central Committee members and Auditing Commission members of the Ukrainian Communist Party, as well as by all party and soviet functionaries.

It is also important to consolidate the authority of economic leaders and specialists; to create the conditions for them to do fruitful work and increase their professional skills; and to rigorously cut short any attempt to harass or pressure leaders, wherever this might come from. And finally, a decisive end should be put to the frequent and unsubstantiated replacement of the leaders of enterprises, associations, construction sites, kolkhozes, and sovkhozes.

Everything must be done to ensure that people have a real sense that the restructuring process is gathering strength and that it will bring concrete results. For this reason, as well as resolving long-term issues, one should in no way relax the attention one pays to ensuring normal functioning of the national economy and unconditional fulfillment of the tasks of this year and the 20th 5-year plan.

In an assessment of the results of the republican national economy work in the first 6 months, it has to be noted that a stable trend toward an improvement in the situation appeared in the second quarter, and particularly in May and June.

In industry the 6-month plan for commodity production has been fulfilled, and commodities worth R97 million, including R39 million in June, have been produced over and above the plan. The enterprises of the timber and wood processing industry in 18 oblasts and in Kiev have made up the lag which was allowed to arise at the beginning of the year and have entered the rhythm of the annual plan. The foodstuff branches of the agro-industrial complex have coped with the 6-month plan. The plans for state purchases of livestock, poultry, milk, and eggs have been over-fulfilled. The tasks set for commissioning housing, children's institutions, and the most important production capacities have been exceeded.

At the same time, there has been no improvement as yet in a number of indexes of many spheres and branches. The republican Ministry of Ferrous Metallurgy and the Ministry of Local Industry and the industries of Zaporozhye, Voroshilovgrad, Donetsk, Dnepropetrovsk, and Nikolayev Oblasts, have all made a mess of the June plan and have increased their debt since the beginning of the year. Enterprises of Ukrainian SSR Ministry of the Construction Materials Industry and in Kirovgrad and Kharkov Oblasts have been unable to fully compensate for the lag in product output.

The fulfillment of contractual obligations worsened in June. Shortfalls in deliveries increased by R381 million, this being due mainly to the enterprises in the machine building (R265 million) and ferrous metallurgy (R61 million) industries. Since the beginning of the year these shortfalls have already reached almost R1.3 million (98.1 percent of the plan has been fulfilled).

Construction workers failed to fulfill their 6-month tasks of activating capital assets (84 percent fulfillment), assimilation of state capital investments (92 percent), and building and installation work (94 percent).

None of the railroads has fulfilled its loading plans, and the republic's Ministry of Motor Transport has not coped with the plan for freight transport.

According to calculations on the fulfillment of the annual plan in the second half of the year, the growth in industrial production must amount to 4.4 percent of last year's achieved level. This task is quite feasible. After all, growth reached 4.3 percent in the second quarter. The leaders of ministries, departments, associations, and enterprises in industry, construction, and transport are obliged to do everything to fulfill the annual plan. Fulfillment of the Food Program was included in the question of an urgent nature at the June CPSU Central Committee Plenum. This year there are objective conditions in almost all spheres for achieving an upsurge in the increase of agricultural production.

The main task now that of harvesting of everything in time and of disposing of products in a proprietary manner, allowing no losses or spoilage. The late ripening of the grain crops dictates that the harvesting timescale be compressed and demands a high standard of organization and discipline in order to carry out the harvest in 10 to 12 days in every kolkhoz and sovkhoz, and to do this in practice rather than in words alone.

A total of 21 oblasts have already joined in the harvest. It is the duty of party, soviet, and economic workers, as well as agro-industrial specialists, to be constantly -- round the clock, one might say -- among the people working in the fields during the harvest, to make sure that normal conditions of work and everyday life are created for them everywhere, to ensure that harvesting work is conducted rapidly and that it is of high quality, and to ensure that collectives have a good working attitude.

What is involved does not mean replacing economic managers, but rather increasing cadres' responsibility for the fate of the harvest and for the fulfillment and overfulfillment of plans for sales of grain, sunflower, sugar beet, and other crops to the state by each kolkhoz, sovkhoz, rayon, and oblast. If things go as they should, there will not be any special resolutions or instructions on this matter.

It is important only that the state's resource acquire a maximum amount of wheat, rye, peas, and hulled crops.

It stands to reason that the gross yield of grain will largely depend on the corn harvest. For this reason one must not relax the attention paid to corn sowing. It is necessary to do everything possible in order to obtain 38 to 40 quintals of corn grain from every hectare.

It is necessary to make serious corrections to the situation regarding the provision of coarse and succulent fodder for livestock-raising farms. It is known that 21 quintals of fodder units of these types are needed per standard head of livestock in every kolkhoz or sovkhoz. However, only five oblasts have planned to procure this quantity of fodder, while Volyn, Zhitomir, Transcapathian, and Rovno Oblasts planned on having only 15 or 16 quintals of them.

This year there is an opportunity to procure sufficient quantities high-quality hay, haylage, silage, and other fodders. In this connection it is important that the needs of the population's personal plots should be fully considered and satisfied in every kolkhoz and sovkhoz. This approach must be universal.

Unfortunately, an old ailment is recurring in a number of oblasts this year, too. In Sumy Oblast, for example, 1 and 1/2 months after the start of grass reaping, almost one-third of the grass has not been cut and some fodder has become unusable. The Central Committee Secretariat of the Ukrainian Communist Party has provided a principled assessment of these facts. We hope, Comrade I.G. Grintsov, that the obkom bureau will correct the situation. This also applies to Voroshilovgrad, Crimean, and Chernigov Oblasts.

We are all for the independence of kolkhozes and sovkhozes for the development of their initiative. But that does not mean that party control, especially over the state of affairs in grain farming and fodder production, has been struck from the agenda.

There is much to be done to prepare the national economy for work the forthcoming fall and winter period. Taking the lessons of the past into account, it is necessary to provide for the timely creation of stocks of raw materials, fuel, and other materials at enterprises, as well as to finish in good time the repairs carried out on buildings, livestock-raising units, equipment, transport, power units, defrosting systems, and snow clearing and other technical equipment.

Special attention must be paid to the preparation of the electrical, gas, heating, and water supply networks, of housing, and of social and everyday institutions, as well as to the provision of fuel for the population and the communal sector. All this work needs to be started on right away, the necessary forces and resources must be drawn into fulfilling it, and it must be kept under strict party control.

The next point is that particular attention is necessary approaching the completion of the plan for 1988. The success of the entire 5-year plan period will depend largely on how this 1988 plan stipulates indexes and rates and how it reflects the demands of reform. For this reason we recommend that all sections of the plan be analyzed again and again at all levels, and that the necessary additions be introduced in accordance with the directives of the CPSU Central Committee plenum.

The Presidium of the Ukrainian SSR Supreme Soviet and the local soviet organs should pay particular attention to the formation of scientific-technological and sociological programs aimed at increasing the effectiveness of the economies of the republic, oblasts, towns, and rayons. The Ukrainian SSR Government, State Planning Committee, and State Committee for Material and Technical Supply are committed to solving, constantly and in the proper manner, the tasks of making both current and long-term plans balanced. This is one of the decisive conditions for forward movement.

To sum up what I have been saying, I would like to emphasize that /everything that is being done now and that will have to be done in the near future will demand an exceptional exertion of effort, initiative, and boldness from everyone./

This work touches on the interests of millions of people. Its success will only become possible if all working people are involved in the restructuring process, including management restructuring, and if conditions are created everywhere for them to participate widely in the discussion and elaboration of decisions on the socioeconomic development of oblasts, towns, rayons, and enterprises.

In conclusion, V.V. Shcherbitskiy said the following:

We are beginning the truly historic work to fulfill the decisions of the June CPSU Central Committee Plenum in the year of the 70th anniversary of the October Revolution. We have the right to regard this work as a direct continuation and development of the revolutionary transformations begun in October.

In evaluating and interpreting the historical path traversed by our party and people, it is necessary to be guided by the CPSU Central Committee directives which were precisely and clearly expressed by M.S. Gorbachev at a meeting with leaders of the mass information media and creative unions.

Now that the restructuring process has started moving with both breadth and depth, it is necessary for party organizations and all Communists to have a very high degree of responsibility for the success of the great cause of socialism begun in October 1917.

There is no doubt that the Communists and all working people of the Ukraine will be up to the contemporary tasks and that they will fulfill their patriotic and international duty with honor.

ORDZHONIKIDZE, ROLE OF 'RUBLE CONTROL' RECALLED

PM241321 Moscow EKONOMICHESKAYA GAZETA in Russian No. 30, Jul 87 (Signed to Press 16 Jul 87) p 14

[Doctor of Historical Sciences L. Morozov article under the rubric "Approaching Great October's 70th Anniversary; Organizers of Socialism's Economy": "Sergo Ordzhonikidze: 'Party-mindedness Above All Else'"]

[Text] People called him "our Sergo." They spoke of him with admiration: "Our army commander."

He was indeed a leader of troops -- Red Army units to begin with, and then the great labor army of miners and fitters, of chemical industry and metallurgy workers...

His name was largely linked with the successes achieved by the Soviet people in industrial development during the prewar 5-year plan periods.

G.K. Ordzhonikidze (1866-1937) joined the leadership of industry in the early thirties, during the most crucial time of its development, a period the party recognized as decisive for the fulfillment of the First 5-Year Plan. A considerable part of industrial construction had to be completed and already constructed enterprises had to be commissioned. Meanwhile the tasks were numerous: Newly built and reconstructed plants produced only one-fifth of heavy industry's total output in 1930. The remainder was accounted for by old plants with their obsolete equipment. This situation was brought about by difficulties with the start-up of new production units.

The implementation of fundamental changes in the national economy and its further assertive development could have been headed only by someone with the qualities of an experienced leader, profoundly familiar with the party work style with cadres, and capable of consistently pursuing the Leninist economic strategy aimed at building a socialist society. In other words, someone gifted with the talent of revolutionary approach toward work.

All these qualities were perfectly typical of G.K. Ordzhonikidze. Using the name Sergo, acquired while in the underground, he graduated from the school of struggle during the years of three Russian revolutions and the civil war. Appraising his activity at that time, V.I. Lenin described him as a most loyal and most able revolutionary (see Vol 51, p 59). For many years Ordzhonikidze was engaged in leading party work in the Transcaucasus, where complex political and economic questions were being solved. He became chairman of the All-Russia Communist Party (Bolsheviks) Central Control Commission and people's commissar of the Workers' and Peasants' Inspectorate.

This appointment was not accidental. The country had entered the period of socialist reconstruction of the national economy, and it was necessary to establish strict control of the work of the state and economic apparatus. To formulate its structure and organize its efficient work -- these were the tasks assigned the Central Control Commission and the Workers' and Peasants' Inspectorate. The energy and experience typical of Ordzhonikidze played a major role in this.

G.K. Ordzhonikidze's work in the control organs lasted 4 years. During that period he accumulated diverse experience in party and state work. [paragraph continues]

Much time had to be spent on questions concerning the Soviet economy's development. Under his leadership the control organs did not simply inspect the activity of various enterprises but analyzed it profoundly and drew up programs for its improvement. G.K. Ordzhonikidze personally studied industry's work and became a major expert on its problems.

These factors predetermined G.K. Ordzhonikidze's promotion to the post of chairman of the Supreme National Economic Council in November 1930. Following the reorganization of that organ, Comrade Sergo became people's commissar for heavy industry.

G.K. Ordzhonikidze began primarily with a simplification of industry's central management apparatus. The experience of work at the Central Control Commission and the Workers' and Peasants' Inspectorate helped him to swiftly eliminate the superfluous links. Radical changes were implemented in the methods of economic management, and war was declared on the inertia and routine typical of a significant proportion of state apparatus workers.

Grigoriy Konstantinovich attached exceptional importance to the selection and education of cadres. Consideration of the human factor was always typical of Ordzhonikidze. When he was transferred to work at the Supreme National Economic Council, this feature of his work style acquired exceptional importance. He educated a group of talented captains of industry. K.I. Butenko, G.K. Gvakhariya, A.P. Zavenyagin, P.I. Korobov, I.A. Likhachev, I.F. Tevosyan, and many other organizers of socialist industry were his pupils and close associates.

In his relations with cadres Ordzhonikidze combined trust, concern, and respect with implacability toward those who tried to arrange a quiet life for themselves and disregarded the interests of the state and society, along with implacability toward any manifestations of bureaucratism and disintegration. Ordzhonikidze considered party mindedness to be the first and foremost quality of cadres. "It must not be forgotten," he said, "that an economic manager is surrounded by all sorts of people -- our own and outsiders -- who try to influence him, who try to demoralize him. Any economic manager, director, or shop foreman who is able to resist this and to preserve his integrity in a Bolshevik fashion -- well done. As for anyone who deviates from this path, he will perish, nothing will come of him. Party-mindedness -- above all else and before all else."

An economic manager's party-mindedness, in Comrade Sergo's opinion, consisted of an ability to fundamentally investigate the causes of difficulties and find within himself the courage to admit mistakes and truthfully appraise his own work. He mercilessly exposed people who engaged in window dressing, those who used objective reasons in an attempt to cover up their own mistakes.

Economic managers' party-mindedness, Ordzhonikidze noted, must also be displayed in their attitudes toward the plan. He considered that any downward revisions of the plan were altogether impermissible. He demanded that economic managers not permit "any talk at all about the downward revision or review of plans." And he personally set an example of purposefulness in achieving the set goals. This quality gave him the moral right to take people to task along party lines for omissions in leadership, and to promote and praise those who "furiously and brutally" fought for the fulfillment of set plans.

Comprehensive knowledge of people and invariable concern for them were one of Ordzhonikidze's distinguishing qualities as leader of industry. [paragraph continues]

Academician I.P. Bardin recalled: "There are hundreds of workers, engineers, Stakhanovites, and foremen who can remember what Sergo did for them personally, whether he wrote them a friendly letter, issued them with travel vouchers, or sent them on a study course. One's inner qualities rather than title or official position, one's work and desire to wholeheartedly labor for the happiness of the people -- that was Sergo's main criterion for appraising someone as a person and a worker."

Grigoriy Konstantinovich's consideration of the human factor also had its effect when it came to overcoming difficulties. In 1931 the start-up of the Stalingrad Tractor Plant was not going well. Only 2-3 vehicles were coming off the conveyor belts daily instead of 100. There were references to objective causes but, when they were eliminated, the situation failed to improve. That was when Ordzhonikidze personally traveled to the plant and drew the conclusion: "The command staff observes rather than leads." "The time has come to put an end to slackness." The plant's leadership was reinforced with enterprising cadres. A system of measures ensuring a sharp turnabout in the plant's work was elaborated jointly with the workers and engineering and technical staff.

Ordzhonikidze attached paramount importance to the selection of cadres and their mastery of equipment when solving other problems, too. Ordzhonikidze's approach to the question of using foreign-made equipment and the experience of foreign specialists was typical in this regard. It is well known that, during the First 5-Year Plan period, the country purchased abroad many items of the most advanced equipment. This was needed for the swiftest possible development of Soviet industry. But Comrade Sergo categorically warned against blind reliance on the importation of foreign equipment. "Sergo," I.P. Bardin recalled, "had a burning desire for Soviet plants to be not only as good as but actually better than foreign plants in all respects, and for everything we built to be more attractive, more elegant, and better."

Another distinguishing feature of G.K. Ordzhonikidze's style in the leadership of the economy was the combination of attention to the organizational and technical side of work with concern for social facilities and working and living conditions. His attention was always focused on questions concerning order in production, the wages system, and living and working conditions.

There is such a topical ring under contemporary conditions to G.K. Ordzhonikidze's words addressed to economic leaders: "...In my view we were absolutely incorrect in what we hitherto believed: that a worker's daily life, housing, cultural services, and food supplies are a matter for cooperatives or trade unions but not for economic leaders. This is totally inappropriate, it is incorrect."

On Sergo's insistence new plans were drawn up for the construction of industrial centers at Magnitogorsk, Novokuznetsk, and Nizhniy Tagil, providing normal conditions for workers' labor and rest.

In questions of economic management Ordzhonikidze displayed great boldness based on a profound knowledge of real economic processes. Guided by the party Central Committee directives, he persistently pursued a policy of enhancing leaders' responsibility and bringing leadership closer to production. In his view, industrial enterprises were to be the main link in industrial management.

The Stakhanovite movement which spread widely in the mid-thirties made it possible to achieve tangible results in solving the social and economic tasks facing the country. [paragraph continues]

It made it possible to adopt a new approach to the equipment utilization norms which prevailed in industry and applied the brakes to labor productivity growth. Ordzhonikidze was an ardent supporter of a revision of these norms, of a new approach to the utilization of production capacities.

Our norms are out of date, Ordzhonikidze said, because our norm-setters learned from our old professors who, in their turn, learned before the revolution on the basis of old and obsolete equipment. These norms do not represent our limit and, having achieved them, we will more farther down our path.

There is a contemporary ring to G.K. Ordzhonikidze's statements on methods of economic management, the role of commodity-money relationships, and the economic accountability [khozraschetnyy] principles of organizing the work of industrial enterprises. "We are not particularly enamored of ruble control, but a properly organized ruble control consitutes genuine economic accountability and is a necessary precondition of economic management." This demand was met by the Soviet Government's establishment of direct bank credits for enterprises. In this way financial organs were given an opportunity to institute strict financial control over enterprises' activity.

This control substantially boosted the responsibility of economic leaders for the results of production activity. In his speeches Ordzhonikidze demanded that economic leaders study the financial side of affairs and learn how to deal with money.

At that time economic accountability was being implemented only on a limited scale, but even then Ordzhonikidze resolutely condemned the opinion prevailing among plant directors that financial matters were not up to them but up to the Gosbank. He demanded an end to ideas that money could be obtained without any accountability and took a stance against the parasite mentality: "...We're short of money, let's go to the people's commissariat and demand some."

Exactly the same principles ought to provide the basis for building relations between enterprises. In the event an enterprise failed to meet its commitments to its business partners, it could not expect to receive any money and its director ought to "give some serious thought to how he is to pay the wages and how his plant is to continue its work."

A movement for work without state subsidies -- which were formerly considered mandatory for heavy industrial enterprises -- was launched at Grigoriy Konstantinovich's initiative. From the start this initiative brought success to the Makeyevka Metallurgical Plant, and subsequently all heavy industry switched to work without state subsidies. It was transformed into a basically profitable sector.

The results of G.K. Ordzhonikidze's tireless labor and concern took the form of an unprecedented pace of industrial development. Over 4-5 years the country's cast iron production increased more than 2.5 times, while steel smelting more than doubled. Tractors and motor vehicles were produced in hundreds of thousands.

Speaking at the 17th All-Russian Communist Party (Bolsheviks) Congress, Ordzhonikidze noted that the last few years had seen vast amounts of capital investment in heavy industry and the building of a large number of plants. "We can say without boasting that there are no such plants in Europe."

The gigantic scientific and technical potential created with Ordzhonikidze's most active participation played an important role in the victory over fascist Germany. People educated by the party and the line relentlessly pursued by Sergo led the country's national economy to the leading frontiers of social and economic progress.

BRIEFS

AZERBAIJAN OIL -- The Apsheronskiy Drilling Administration's collective is about to mark the 70th anniversary of the Great October Revolution with new success in drilling. The workers of the administration will drill 74,000 meters for exploitation purposes in the old fields during the current year. Another 6,745 meters will be drilled for exploration purposes. The workers drilled 40,700 meters during the first 6 month of the year. Twenty-four wells have been handed over to the oil extraction workers. All are producing satisfactorily. [Summary] [Baku Domestic Service in Azeri 1600 GMT 12 Jul 87 NC]

SOLOVYEV ADDRESSES AGRICULTURAL SEMINAR

PM270931 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 22 Jul 87 Second Edition p 2

[TASS report: "All-Union Seminar"]

[Text] Leningrad, 21 Jul -- Restructuring the vegetable supply system to ensure that people have fresh produce all the year round is a paramount condition of implementing the country's Food Program. Hothouse vegetable growing has an important role to play in resolving this problem. Ways to further intensify hothouse vegetable growing, to improve the economic mechanism, and to reinforce direct links between farms and trade enterprises are the subject of discussion at a conference-seminar organized by the CPSU Central Committee in Leningrad. It began work today at the House of Political Enlightenment.

The conference was opened by I.K. Kapustyan, deputy chief of the CPSU Central Committee Agriculture and Food Industry Department.

The participants were addressed by Yu.F. Solovyev, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and first secretary of the Leningrad CPSU Obkom.

Secretaries of union republic communist parties' Central Committees, secretaries of CPSU obkoms and kraykoms, leaders of the USSR State Agro-Industrial Committee and the agro-industrial committees of the union and autonomous republics, oblasts, and krays, directors of agricultural associations and sovkhozes, kolkhoz chairmen, and leaders of science and planning institutions are taking part in the work of the conference-seminar. On the first day of the seminar its participants visited farms of the "Leto" Association, where they were acquainted with experience in applying intensive technologies and using new models of hothouse equipment.

FEED PROCUREMENT LAGGING IN MANY AREAS

PM240847 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 23 Jul 87 Second Edition p 2

["Agricultural Review": "Haymaking Time" by Ye. Yevgenyev]

[Excerpts] After passing its "peak," the summer is painting more and more fields with the colors of the ripening harvest. The grain harvest is under way not just on farms in the Central Asian Republics and Transcaucasia, but also in Kirghizia, Kazakhstan, the Ukraine, Moldavia, and the north Caucasus. The vegetable, fruit, and berry harvest continues everywhere.

According to information supplied by the USSR Central Statistical Administration, grain crops on kolkhozes and sovkhozes had been cut on 8.9 million hectares, or 8 percent of the sown area, by 20 July. Tending of sowings and preparation of the soil for winter sowing continue.

July is traditionally the month of haymaking. In many areas there has been much rain which has hampered work in the meadows.

By the beginning of the last third of July kolkhozes and sovkhozes had laid in 44.3 million tonnes of hay, 49 million tonnes of haylage, 7.4 million tonnes of silage, and 2.7 million tonnes of grass meal. Feed procurement per nominal head of livestock totals 4.6 quintals of feed units. [paragraph continues]

This is approximately one-fourth of the livestock units' requirement for coarse and succulent feeds.

This means that much work still lies ahead of agricultural workers. However, the pace of this work in many areas does not correspond either to the set targets or the existing capabilities. Farms in Georgia, Pskov, Orel, Nikolayev, and a number of other oblasts are especially lagging in field procurement. The situation is aggravated by the fact that many collectives continue to lay in feedstocks without proper attention to their quality; they are acting on the principle: the more the better. [passage omitted]

By procuring low-quality feeds, kolkhozes and sovkhozes are radically reducing the efficiency of livestock raising and increasing the consumption of grain. This is why it is necessary to make extensive use of all progressive techniques for obtaining high-grade green feeds. This is being done on farms in Grodno, Kiev, Moscow, and some other oblasts where livestock feed rations are being improved, and this is producing higher returns.

Wherever the animals are well fed, the increases in livestock unit output are more tangible and plans and pledges are fulfilled more successfully. Belorussian farms have increased milk, meat, and poultry purchases by 11-12 percent over the last 6 months. Livestock units in Estonia have managed to exceed last year's milk sales by 7 percent. In the country as a whole, 4 percent more milk than a year ago was delivered to reception points. The increase in meat procurement is even more significant (10 percent).

The total contribution to the country's food resources could be even more tangible, of course, if all the collectives were trying to step up the pace and to avoid disruptions. On many farms in Tajikistan and Volgograd, Kursk, Rostov, and a number of other oblasts the productivity of the herd and milk procurement have decreased. The rayon agro-industrial associations and oblast agro-industrial committees which failed to help livestock breeders in good time to overcome the difficult situation deserve to be seriously rebuked.

There are more jobs than there is time for. The fields, meadows, and plantations are demanding more and more attention. Whether the yields are generous will depend on the farmers.

MEDIA REPORT 19-22 JULY AGRICULTURAL WORK

LD230324 [Editorial Report] The following is a compilation of reports on agricultural developments in the USSR carried by Moscow Domestic Service in Russian, unless otherwise indicated, on 19-22 July. GMT times of broadcasts are given in parentheses at the end of each item.

19 July

Volgograd Oblast has started handing over grain to the state. (0000)

Kalmykiya: laying-in of seed is going badly. Two thirds of the 500,000 hectares supposed to be harvested did not survive to be mown. Because of feed problems this past winter and in the first 5 months of this year, the farms of Kalmykiya ended up more than 500,000 sheep short and missed out on 700,000 lambs. Now only one-third of the minimum amount of hay required has been put in store, and less than half the haylage. A large proportion of the feed is low grade. (0000)

Farms in the southern Ukraine are carrying out the mass harvesting of winter cereal crops. (0400)

Both winter and spring grain have ripened at almost the same time in Zaporozhye Oblast, calling for a high level of organization so as to prevent losses. An average yield of about 34 quintals per hectare is expected, so long as the operation is well organized. There are good crops of peas, barley, and winter wheat. (0800)

Harvesting has started in Kuybyshev Oblast where there are 1.8 million hectares of grain. Nikolay Chebotarev reports from Rostov-na-Donu on harvesting in the Don area. Harvesting started late here, but all 24 rayons have started in the same week, which is very rare. This means that the farms can't help each other out. There is a record area of rye sown, 1.7 million hectares. Rye cannot tolerate delays in harvesting. It is not yet possible to speak of the quality, since only the southern rayons are threshing. In large areas the grain crops have been flattened and twisted by wind and rain, but the machines are all equipped to deal with this. (2300)

20 July

The farms of the Mari ASSR Non-Chernozem Zone have laid in the first 100,000 tonnes of haylage -- almost half the planned amount. (0204)

Farms in North Ossetia began sales of grain to the state today. Strong and valuable wheat varities are arriving at break product combines. A good harvest has been grown in the foothills region. Here farmers are obtaining up to 35 quintals per hectare of winter wheat. Many farms are selling only top quality wheat to the state. (1500)

The grain harvest is coming to a close in Uzbekistan. To date over 250,000 tonnes of grain have been delivered to the state, three times as much as had been procured by this time last year. (2230)

21 July

In Uzbekistan more than 250,000 tonnes of grain have been handed over to the state. That is three times more than by the same time last year. (0204)

In Kirghizia harvesting is moving higher into the mountains. Talas Oblast is now harvesting grain. So far more than 100,000 hectares have been cleared in the republic. (0204)

The farms of Orel Oblast, in the central Non-Chernozem Zone have started harvesting rye and wheat. Harvesting will be difficult because the crops have been flattened across a large area. The stems have been twisted and tangled by strong winds and rain. Every reaping machine and combine have been equipped with special devices which permit no losses. Four-hundred and sixty harvesting and transport complexes which consist over 8000 combiners, will be used in the harvest. Special commissions have been set up to approve the working order of the combines. This year the Orel crop growers will harvest around 1 million hectares of rye, wheat, barley, and other crops. (1100)

Tambov Oblast is to start harvesting winter and spring grain crops. Over 6,500 harvesting units, including 'Don-1500' harvesters, will be used there. (1100)

Moldavia's farms are implementing an integrated program to increase soil fertility. Ivan Petkov reports from the Dubossary Rayon. Yekaterina Georgiyevna Dmitrishina in charge of the farm explains that it costs about R7,000 to reinvigorate a single hectare. Chernozem is being spread across the eroded and impoverished fields. Once fertility is restored, a field can give 30-32 quintals of barley per hectare, for instance. Petkov adds that over the last 5-year plan, town and settlement expansion has cost Moldavia 6,000 hectares of good pasture land, and the republic's Gosagroprom remains incredibly calm about this. (1800)

22 July

Mass harvesting of grain has started in Moldavia. Our correspondent reports from Dubossarskiy rayon, where rye, wheat, and peas have all ripened at once, and in some places the crops have been flattened. (0650)

In Belorussia 2 million tonnes of hay and more than 6 million tonnes of haylage have been laid in. (1100)

FURTHER REPORTAGE ON 'SOYUZ-MIR' MISSION

Blagov on Space Experiments

LD272138 Moscow TASS in English 1635 GMT 27 Jul 87

[Text] Moscow July 27 TASS -- TASS special correspondent reports from the Mission Control Centre:

Right after the docking of the Soyuz TM-3 transport spacecraft and the Mir station the Soviet-Syrian crew started the fulfillment of their main task -- a research program which had taken many months for Soviet and Syrian specialists to develop. The crew started interesting work on board the space complex whose results are impatiently awaited by dozens of research institutes and thousands of Soviet and Syrian specialists.

"The research program of the international space mission includes experiments in three spheres -- medicine, technological studies and remote sounding of Syrian territory in the interests of Syrian economy", V. Blagov, deputy head of the mission said. "So far as medicine is concerned, the purpose of all the experiments is to study possibilities of the adaptation of man to conditions unusual to him".

"For instance, it is not fully clear so far why people react to weightlessness in different ways. Specifically, medics do not know the origin of the so-called movement disease that affects cosmonauts. The Anketa (questionnaire) experiment which the cosmonauts started to conduct immediately after entering the station will help elucidate this problem. They were given a list of intricately composed questions which they are to answer before, during and after the flight.

The experiments the cosmonauts are to conduct include Ballisto-3. In conditions of weightlessness the strength of heart contractions and the coordination of the work of the right and left parts of the heart change. The contraction of the heart muscle gives a certain impetus to human body. These micro-changes can be measured and used as a factor characterizing the contraction capacity of the heart muscle. The Kardiografia (cardiography), Krovoobrashchenie (blood circulation) oadaltatsiya (adaptation), contrast (?with) sport experiments are also interesting.

The program provides well for technological experiments having various objectives. Specifically, the crew conducted Ruchei (Brook) experiment. It is difficult to purify Interferon in conditions of the earth, while weightlessness has a number of advantages in this respect. In comparison with previous installations of this type the Ruchei (?installation) is far more efficient and permits to obtain preparations with a higher degree of purity. Apart from Interferon, the installation is used for the purification of anti-gripe preparation. Soviet scientists hope to obtain from it an experimental consignment of anti-serum and diagnosing preparations.

The Palmira experiment is also connected with medicine. Specialists have long wished to obtain a substitute for the bone and tooth tissue which would have all the characteristics of natural tissue, would be strong and light and would not be rejected by human organism. The demand in monocrystal structures with these characteristics suggested to scientists the idea to conduct the experiment. The installation will permit to obtain structures that are produced from numerous monocrystals when they come close together and merge in conditions close to complete weightlessness. The initial materials are hydroxylapatit and gypsum. Microcrystals of hydroxylapatit form the basis of the bone and tooth tissue of man.

The purpose of the Afamia experiment, V. Blagov continued, is to study a possibility to obtain high-quality semi-conductor amonocrystals. New information about the characteristic features of the formation of eutectic metal alloys possessing directed structure and unique characteristics will be obtained in the course of the Kasyun experiment.

The photographing of Syria's territory is of special interest. It will help to create a valuable reserve of space information which can be used for a further study of the natural and economic potential of the republic, the improvement of methods of earth sounding and the processing of space information. It is planned to use the data obtained in this way for resolving many engineering and economic problems in the Syrian Republic. The [word indistinct] is conducted over the basin of the Euphrates River and the Syrian desert. It will help evaluate the forest reserves of the republic, study the Asad and Ba'th water reservoirs and Lake Qatin. The studies are carried on with the help of a set of instruments installed on board the Mir station and from laboratory planes by Syrian scientists.

Crew Holds News Conference

LD272250 [Editorial Report] Moscow Domestic Service in Russian at 1750 GMT on 27 July broadcast a 17-minute report, with portions recorded, by Leonid Lazarevich on a news conference with the Soviet-Syrian crew on board the "Mir" space station at the end of the 4th day in space. The news conference was conducted by correspondent Sergey Slipchenko, with the assistance of Arab interpreter Sergey Titarenko.

The cosmonauts responded to questions from PRAVDA, IZVESTIYA, TRUD, KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA, the NOVOSTI magazine, AL-MADAR, TASS, USSR All-Union Radio, Syria's SANA news agency and AL-JUNDI AL-'ARABI magazine, the Kuwaiti newspaper AL-ANBA', the United Arab Emirates' newspaper AL-ITTIHAD, and the Bulgarian newspaper NARODNA MLADEZH.

Cosmonaut Yuriy Romanenko was asked about his attitude toward space flights with multinational crews. He replied that space research is becoming so complex and expensive that in the future multinational cooperation will become necessary to solve the "boldest" tasks.

The "Mir" station's onboard engineer, Aleksandr Laveykin, was asked about the participation of scientists in the creation of the "Kvant" module. Laveykin discussed the "witch" spectrometer-telescope, developed by the FRG's Institute of Extraterrestrial Physics of the Max Planck Society and Goettingen University. He provided no further details. Syrian cosmonaut Muhammad Faris replied to a question about how successfully the joint experiments are conducted on board the complex, noting: "I met with full cooperation and help from my Soviet colleagues."

Cosmonaut Viktorenko was asked whether he had observed any physical changes in Laveykin and Romanenko since he last saw them 5 months ago. He said he had found no such changes. Faris was asked about his impressions of weightlessness. He replied that the experience is indeed unusual, but that he was well-trained for such conditions. AL-ITTIHAD asked Faris about reports in Western mass media alleging that foreign cosmonauts on Soviet space missions are simply passengers. Faris stated that he has never been simply a passenger and that he underwent thorough training in order to be ready for the conduct of technical experiments. Lazarevich broke in to say that the spacecraft had moved out of communications range. He noted that the "Soyuz-TM-2" spacecraft carrying Viktorenko, Laveykin, and Faris will begin its decent to Earth late in the evening of 29 July.

YAZOV, OTHERS ATTEND NAVY DAY MEETING

PM271141 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 26 Jul 87 First Edition p 1

[Unattributed report: "Ceremonial Meeting"]

[Text] A ceremonial meeting to mark Navy Day was held at the Soviet Army Central Academic Theater 24 July. Representatives of the working people of Moscow, servicemen from the capital's garrison, and Navy veterans assembled in the auditorium.

The meeting's presidium comprised: Army General D.T. Yazov, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and USSR Defense Minister; Minister of General Machine Building O.D. Baklanov; Minister of the Shipbuilding Industry I.S. Belousov; Minister of the Aviation Industry A.S. Systsov; Army General A.D. Lizichev, chief of the Soviet Army and Navy Main Political Directorate; Admiral of the Fleet V.N. Chernavin, USSR deputy defense minister; Army General M.I. Sorokin, USSR deputy defense minister; Army General D.S. Sukhorukov, USSR deputy defense minister [title as published]; Admiral A.I. Sorokin, first deputy chief of the Army and Navy Main Political Directorate; A.N. Soshnikov, deputy chief of a CPSU Central Committee department; Vice Admiral V.I. Panin, member of the military council and chief of the Navy political directorate, generals, admirals, officers, and veterans of the Navy; and representatives of party, soviet, and public organizations.

The ceremonial meeting was opened by Yu.A. Belyakov, second secretary of the Moscow CPSU Gorkom.

Hero of Socialist Labor V.I. Kamitsin, machine-setter at Moscow's "Znamya Truda" Machine Building Plant, and Komsomol Central Committee Secretary N.I. Paltsev delivered greetings to sailors.

The meeting was addresed by Admiral of the Fleet V.N. Chernavin, commander in chief of the Navy and deputy defense minister of the USSR.

The ceremonial meeting was followed by a festive concert.

ADM CHERNAVIN INTERVIEWED ON SOVIET NAVY

AU271554 Sofia NARODNA ARMIYA in Bulgarian 24 Jul 87 pp 1, 4

[Interview with Navy Admiral Vladimir Chernavin, USSR deputy minister of defense and commander of the USSR Havy, by "NOVOSTI correspondent," given "especially to NARODNA ARMIYA" -- date and place not given]

[Text] [NOVOSTI] What is the role attributed to the Navy by the military doctrines in our nuclear century?

[Chernavin] The military doctrines of NATO, and first of all the United States, give an increasing preference to "ocean strategy," namely, waging war from the sea. In this context they concentrate more and more of the basic power of their strategic strike forces in the oceans of the world.

Recently the United States has been forcing the development of the so called new naval strategy. In essence it consists of significantly increasing the strike possibilities within the general system of military actions, achieving superiority of the sea through the qualitative and quantitative growth of the strike means, and in the final account, of establishing control by the navies of the United States and its partners in all vital areas of the world -- the north Atlantic, the Pacific, the Indian Ocean, and the Norwegian and Mediterranean Seas. According to John Lehman, the former U.S. secretary of the Navy and one of the authors of this strategy, the most important factor is to keep the U.S. Navy ready to attack the USSR in its territorial waters and its strike targets, situated deep in Soviet territory. This was confirmed when James Watkins, former chief of naval operations, told Congress in February, 1986: "Today, as in the past, the Navy remains the main U.S. instrument of reacting to crises and extraordinary situations."

What is the danger concealed in this U.S. strategy? It is in the fact that this strategy leads toward increasing the aggressiveness of the U.S. Navy, as well as increasing the level of the military confrontation in various parts of the world and the possibility of military conflicts in these areas.

The exclusively defensive military strategy of the USSR attributed the necessary attention to the Navy within the process of solving the issues of the armed forces' structure. The construction of a Soviet nuclear navy and equipping it with vessels, aircraft, and weapons capable of neutralizing the danger on the part of the U.S. Navy and the entire NATO bloc, was the completely natural Soviet answer to the creation of a striking U.S. Navy and its movement close to the USSR border. By turning into an ocean and missile-carrying navy, the Soviet Navy became a force which is able to oppose every aggression from the sea, and solve major strategic tasks in the oceans of the world. Furthermore, the U.S. strategists hoped to divert the nuclear strikes from their territory by deploying their main strategic forces in the ocean. However, the birth of the USSR nuclear-missile navy and its presence in the world ocean buried this hope. It became obvious that in case of a war the United States will be threatened by responsive strikes, which will punish it for the aggression it started.

[NOVOSTI] Could you give some details about the character of the modern USSR Navy?

[Chernavin] Of course, this is hardly a secret. At present the USSR Navy consists of submarines with missile and torpedo armaments, including nuclear weapons, surface vessels of various classes, coastal missile-artillery units and naval infantry, and auxiliary vessels of different purposes.

The nuclear submarines are the foundation of the Navy's striking power. Armed with submarine-launched long-range ballistic missiles and nuclear torpedoes they are able to strike from afar not only sea targets but also targets located on the coast and at the enemy's rear. The modern diesel submarines also have a broad range of possibilities. They can sucessfully conduct reconnaissance, act against the enemy's convoys, strike enemy targets with missiles, and implement other tasks in which the use of nuclear vessels is not useful.

The naval missile-carrying aviation also belongs to the striking forces of the USSR Navy. It comprises long-range jets, which can fly in any atmospheric conditions, have great speed, and are armed with conventional and nuclear missiles. They are able to inflict nuclear-missile strikes on highly mobile surface vessels and convoys of the enemy in every corner of the ocean, and in his ports and naval bases. In addition, USSR Naval aviation includes other aircraft and anti-submarine helicopters.

The Soviet Navy also comprises surface-combat vessels for different purposes. They are armed with missiles of different classes, torpedoes, artillery, and other sea weapons. The Soviet sailors are proud of combat vessels such as the "Kirov" and "Frunze" nuclear-missile cruisers, the "Slava" missile cruiser, aircraft carriers of the "Kiev" type, and so forth. The naval infantry and the coastal missile-artillery units are equipped with modern combat equipment and weapons. Floating bases, transportation vessels of various purposes, tankers, hydrographic and rescue vessels, tugboats, floating workshops, icebreakers, and other specialized vessels facilitate the organization of high-level material-technical supply of the naval units and vessels, both in the bases and far away from our coasts. In short, we could say with total justification that today the Soviet sailors have everything necessary for implementing the complex tasks of guaranteeing the security of the motherland's sea borders, as well as the sea borders of our allies and friends.

[NOVOSTI] In the year in which the new USSR Navy was born, the United States initiated a campaign, which continues today, and which tried to prove that unlike the United States, the USSR is ostensibly a landlocked country, thus it "does not have the right" to create strong navy, because the Soviet Navy "threatens peace." Today the USSR is accused of expanding in the Indian Ocean and the Pacific. What could you say about this?

[Chernavin] The USSR is a sea country. Three oceans wash its coasts. The length of the USSR sea borders is more than twice the total length of the U.S. Atlantic and Pacific coasts. The West knows this very well. All their considerations on this matter are of a propaganda character and aim at justifying the growing expenditures for enhancing the power of their own navies.

I would like to stress again that the Soviet Navy does not threaten anybody's security or sovereignty. It implements defensive functions only. However, in order to block the potential threat on the part of the U.S. Navy, the Soviet vessels are forced to be in these sea and ocean areas in which the United States threatens or could threaten the USSR. This fully applies to our Pacific Fleet and to the presence of a small unit of USSR vessels in the Indian Ocean.

A simple comparison of the vessels of the basic class and the aviation of the U.S. and USSR Navies clearly shows that the United States has a larger navy than the USSR. "As a whole the balance of the naval forces is in the favor of the United States," admitted Caspar Weinberger, the U.S. secretary of defense, in a report to the U.S. Congress on the budget for the 1988-89 financial year. Regardless of this, the United States continues to enlarge its navy. Those are the facts.

It is also well known that it is not the USSR but the United States who constantly increases its Armed Forces in Asia and the Pacific. The strike forces of the U.S. Seventh Fleet are deployed in an immediate proximity to the shores of the USSR and other Asian socialist countries, and in their bases in Alaska, Japan, South Korea, and the Philippines. In their maneuvers and training, they carry out exercises of clearly aggressive and attacking character. The United States constantly maintains a sufficiently powerful striking aircraft carrier unit in the zone of the Indian Ocean, and now it is also increasing the capacity of its fleet in the area of the Persian Gulf.

It is known that the USSR repeatedly proposed to mutually limit the activities of the navies, turn as large a part of the world's oceans as possible into a zone of peace, work out and adopt confidence measures, mutually withdrawing submarines with nuclear weapons from the broad areas of combat patrol, and limiting the parameters of their activity by mutually agreed borders. The USSR proposed many initiatives related to regulating the problems of the Asian-Pacific region, lowering the level of military activity in the Pacific and Indian Ocean, and liquidating military bases and objects on foreign territory. However, the United States and its NATO allies rejected these proposals and continue to increase their arms, including naval weapons, which could have lethal consequences.